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THE COLOR COMPUTER MONTHLY MAGAZINE

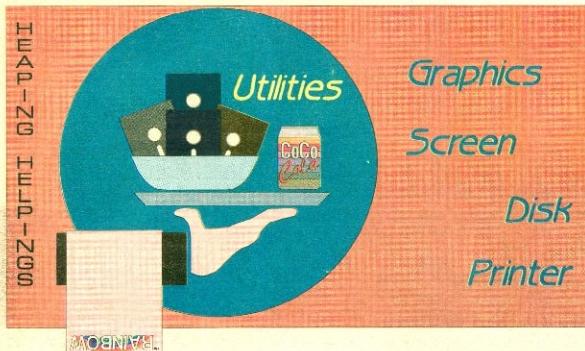
January 1993 Vol. XII No. 6

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SEE PAGE 11



**Feature Program**

## OS-9: Code

In From the by Bruce Green



I have often found myself fumbling through my printer and OS-9 manuals looking for control codes to configure the printer or a window. Memorizing many codes seemed almost impossible and procedure files are too clumsy and limiting for this purpose.

Sendcode is a utility I wrote to eliminate the tedious chore of looking up these control codes. Instead, you use words to tell Sendcode what function you want, and it looks up the proper control codes to send.

Sendcode brings user-friendly operation to OS-9, especially with printers and other devices, by replacing numbers with simple names. When you need to send special control codes to a device, such as a printer, you probably dig out your manuals and use OS-9's `display` command to send the codes. For example, if you have a DMP-132 and want to turn on the underline function, you would refer to the printer manual to determine that the proper control code is \$F. Then you would enter the following command to actually send the code:

```
display Of > /p
```

Sendcode eliminates this hassle by using device-specific (one for each device you want to use) .code files in which you define simple command words for specific

devices. The .code file is a simple list of names you want to use for device functions, along with the appropriate control-code sequences to perform these functions. Then you use this command word with Sendcode to actually perform the function. For the DMP-132 underline function above, you might enter something like

```
sendcode UndrlnON
```

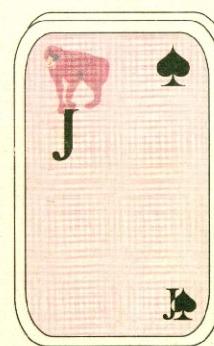
Sendcode looks for the parameter `UndrlnON` in the .code file to determine the appropriate codes to send, then sends them. It's that easy.

To get started, you first need to enter and compile the `sendcode.c` source code shown in the listing. (Alternatively, the compiled program is on this month's RAINBOW ON DISK as well as in the OS9 Online SIG on Delphi.)

After compiling the program, you need to create a .code file. Since most users will probably use Sendcode to send codes to a printer, I set the default .code file to

*See Code on Page 17*

**Feature Program**



## A Safari into Solitaire

by Kenneth Reighard, Jr.



We've all heard the phrase "all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy." Whatever the reason, it does sometimes help to play a bit with the computer so you don't feel overcome by work. Darn It, an addictive solitaire game written for the CoCo 3, is ideal for this purpose.

In Darn It, six columns of six cards each are displayed face up in the upper portion of the screen. The rest of the deck (16 cards) is placed face down in the lower-left area, and the top card of this deck is turned face up on the right. This latter card is the "play" pile.

The object of Darn It is to move all the cards from the top portion of the screen to the play pile. Legal moves are those in which the card to be played has a value exactly one higher or lower than the value

of the face-up card at the top of the play pile. The suit of the cards is irrelevant. The card values go from Ace (low) to King (high). The values don't wrap around; you can't play a King on an Ace or an Ace on a King. In fact, you can't play any card on a King. You can move only the bottom cards from each column. To move, use the left and right arrows to select the column from which you want to play a card and press ENTER to move it to the play pile.

When none of the bottom cards in the column can be played, turn the next card on the deck face up on the play pile. To do this, simply press the space bar. The number of cards remaining in the deck is indicated on the back of the deck.

When the deck is empty and no legal moves are left, the game is over. The

*See Safari on Page 10*

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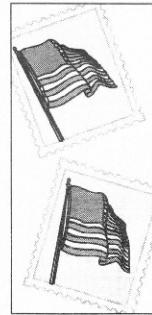
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## LETTERS

## The Right Stuff

*Editor:*

After opening my November 1992 issue of THE RAINBOW, I found myself spending more time than usual reading the articles. On reflection, I think the opinions of Tony Podraza and the experiences of John Donaldson caused me to take a second look. Let me complement THE RAINBOW for choosing these types of articles. I believe these are the kinds of authors needed to inspire some of the rest of us readers.

The blend of program listings, advertisements, product reviews, help with Delphi and the articles mentioned above was about right from my point of view. I do, however, suggest one minor change to alert the reader of the "Corrections" section. Since colors seem to be available for each page, the color red would stand out better than black for the heading. The size of the "Corrections" heading and the placement were good following the "Letters to the Editor."

Farrell Kenimer  
2601 W. Corrine Drive  
Phoenix, AZ 85029-2510

Thanks for the kind words, Farrell. We also think the two articles you mentioned are not only appropriate but needed, and we hope to provide similar articles in future issues.

We generally try to fit "Corrections" where there is room, then alert readers in the "Table of Contents." On the other hand, nothing says we can't try to find the extra room on a "red" page.

## Needs a Disk Controller

*Editor:*

I need help. After collecting all my hardware and software for the CoCo 3, I have discovered I don't have an I/O [disk] controller! To complicate things, I understand it is nearly impossible to get one at this time. Will someone please help me find or build one?

C.J. Ryan  
USCGC Gallatin (WHEC-721)  
FPO, AE 09570-3908

## Looking for EARS

*Editor:*

I'm working on a special setup and need help finding EARS, a voice-recognition system originally sold by Speech Systems. Since that company is no longer marketing products in this community, I'm hoping one of the "older" Color Computer users will have a copy of this hardware/software product he might be willing to part with.

Randy Alderink  
341 Lincoln Avenue  
Holland, MI 49423-3662

## Trying to Secure a Book

*Editor:*

For the past few months I have been searching for a book by the title *Security Projects for the TRS-80 Color Computer*

and sold by Brown's Enterprises. When I wrote to Brown's, my letter was returned marked "No Forwarding Address." I've also checked through library networks, all to no avail. The book isn't even listed in the library's master index, *Books in Print*. How can I get a copy of this book?

Tim Perry  
9724 Whispering Winds  
Indianapolis, IN 46234

*The most current address we have for Brown's Enterprises is 119 Skyline Dr. R.H., Granbury, TX 76048. If this lead doesn't pan out, perhaps another reader can offer some assistance.*

## Pico CAD Abandoned

*Editor:*

I regret to announce that I have abandoned the *Pico CAD* program project I started began three years ago. I delivered to my customers all the program modules except the plotter driver and, most importantly, the window interface. As delivered, *Pico CAD* remains the most powerful CAD software I have seen for the CoCo; but in the last two years I have been unable to take the time necessary to put the windowing interface on it. Because of its primitive condition, I am now offering a refund of up to 50 percent to any dissatisfied *Pico CAD* customers. Interested parties may write to me at the address below.

Paul Light  
Gravity Studio  
500 Rolling Hills Place, #209  
Lancaster, TX 75146

*We're sorry to hear you've decided to drop the project. Still, let us be the first to commend you for handling your decision in a professional and responsible manner.*

## Wants a New Keyboard and LEDs

*Editor:*

Is there a way to attach an IBM-type keyboard to my CoCo 3? Also, how can I add a power-on LED indicator to the CoCo 3 and the disk drive so I'll know when they're on?

James Ruth  
128 Seymour Avenue  
Newark, NJ 07108

*Both Owl-Ware and Frank Hogg Labs at one time sold an adapter that allows you to connect a standard PC keyboard to the CoCo. It should be easy to add power indicators to the CoCo 3 and a disk drive. We've forwarded a copy of your letter to Marty Goodman; perhaps he'll provide the mechanics in a future issue.*

## An Addition to Versabase

*Editor:*

Pastor James Altom added a line to the *Versabase* series of database programs I wrote, and I think it really makes a handy addition to the programs. The new line, which follows, displays the current file as a reminder:

```
95 LOCATE 18,20:PRINT"THE CURRENT FILE IS: "; F$
```

This line can be added to all programs in

the *Versabase* series. If you use all the programs, the easiest way to add it is to save it by itself as an ASCII file, then use MERGE to add it to each separate program.

David Polonsky  
Tudor Court, Apt. 15  
800 N. Broad Street  
Elizabeth, NJ 07208

## In Search of CoCo

*Editor:*

I'm looking for a spare CoCo. I tried to locate one at Radio Shack but of course had no luck. I have been a die-hard CoCo user for about eight years. Does anyone have suggestions for a good CoCo compromise?

Jacqueline Hutton  
15210 Sherman Way, #34  
Van Nuys, CA 91405

## Renewed Hope

*Editor:*

I have been an avid RAINBOW reader and subscriber for many years, and I still have every issue I've purchased. After seeing Tandy discontinue the CoCo 3, and magazine ads for software and hardware disappear (not to mention the decreasing size of THE RAINBOW), I thought the CoCo was dead.

Now, with all the information available on the Hitachi 6309, and the advent of two fairly new CoCo resources, I see new life breathing into my Color Computer. I am finally going to get actively involved. I have been reluctant to submit programs because I want to send in more than one on a disk. Is that acceptable?

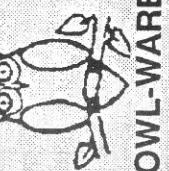
One more note: I've renewed my subscription for another year; I would like to see THE RAINBOW back to its old self. I am sure many others feel the same way. I, for one, would be willing to pay more than \$31 a year to have a nice bulky magazine the size THE RAINBOW used to be.

Christian Miller  
6079 Buerman Road  
Sodus, NY 14551

*You may submit more than one program/article on a single floppy, though we much prefer you send each submission on a separate disk. The submissions we receive are bagged separately for evaluation and multiple submissions on one disk increase the likelihood of problems when we're putting a submission into production.*

THE RAINBOW welcomes letters to the editor. Mail should be addressed to: Letters to Rainbow, The Falsoft Building, 9509 U.S. Hwy 42, P.O. Box 385, Prospect, KY 40059. Letters should include the writer's full name and address. Letters may be edited for clarity or to conserve space.

Letters to the editor may also be sent to us through our Delphi CoCo SIG. From the CoCo SIG> prompt, enter RAI to get to the Rainbow Magazine Services area of the SIG. At the RAINBOW> prompt, enter LET to reach the LETTERS> prompt, then select Letters for Publication. Be sure to include your complete name and address.



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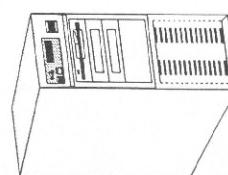
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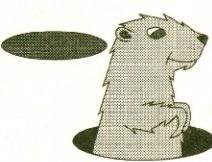
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## Feature Program

# Gopher SMASH

by THOMAS WONG



**H**ave you ever tripped over a hole in your yard and discovered that gophers are inhabiting your property? If so, you probably won't be happy when the time comes to repair damages. While you're taking a break from your inevitable battle with the gophers, load *Gopher Smash* into your CoCo 3 and take out some of your frustrations.

After the program has initialized, you see nine boxes, each with a letter defining it. When a gopher pops up, press the key corresponding with the box containing the gopher, for as many times as the gopher is visible. The higher the gopher is above the ground, the more points you receive. Watch out for surprise bombs, though. The bombs are the same point value as the gophers except they subtract, rather than add, from your score.

The main goal is to gain the highest possible score in 60 seconds. When your time

is up, you are asked if you want to try again or stop.

The game can be modified in several ways. For those who want customized keyboard layout, replace every third value of the DATA statement in Line 1 with the ASCII equivalents of the keys you want to use. Also, if the gophers pop up too fast, delete the high-speed poke in Line 1. These are just a few examples of what you can do to change the program. Good luck smashing gophers!

## Feature Program

# Prompt Improvement

by Ric Pucella



## CoCo 3

## The Listing: SMASH

```

0 ' COPYRIGHT 1989 FALSOFT.INC
1 POKE65497,0:HSCREEN2:HCOLOR0,0
:HCOLOR4,0:H-0:K-1:FORA=1TO8:HBU
FFA,750:NEXTA:FORB=1TO9:READC(B)
,D(B),E(B):NEXTB:DATA32,40,81,12
8,40,87,224,40,69,32,88,65,128,8
8,83,224,88,68,32,136,90,128,136
,88,224,136,67
2 HCIRCLE(28,24),28,4,.3,.5,0:HC
IRCLE(14,24),8,4:HCIRCLE(14,24),
2,4:HCIRCLE(42,24),8,4:HCIRCLE(4
2,24),2,4:HDRAW"BM28,24F8L16EBD
10R82G4L8H4U2R806":HPAINT(14,20
),7,4:HPAINT(28,20),7,4:HLINE(0,
24)-(.40),PSET:HLINE-(56,40),PS
ET:HLINE-(56,24),PSET
3 HPAINT(28,28),2,4:HLINE(88,16)
-(88,20),PSET:HLINE(60,20)-(116,
40),PSET,B:HLINE(60,27)-(116,33)
,PSET,B:HPAINT(88,23),2,4:HPAINT
(88,30),3,4:HPAINT(88,36),5,4:HD
RAW"BM120,18D2R16UBR36U4L36UBL1
6":HPAINT(130,28),6,4:HLINE(120,
22)-(136,34),PSET,B
4 HGET(0,0)-(56,24),1:HGET(0,8)
-(56,32),2:HGET(0,16)-(56,40),3:H
GET(180,16)-(236,40),4:HGET(60,0
)-(116,24),5:HGET(60,8)-(116,32)
,6:HGET(60,16)-(116,40),7:HGET(1
20,16)-(176,40),8:HCCLS:HCOLOR2:H
LINE(4,4)-(316,28),PSET,B:HLINE
(4,32)-(316,182),PSET,B
5 HCOLOR3:FORF=16TO20$STEP96:FOR
G=65T0161$STEP48:HLINE(F,G)-(F+88
,8+16),PSET,B:NEXTG,F:HCOLOR4:H
PRINT(7,9),"Q":HPRINT(19,9),"W":H
PRINT(31,9),"E":HPRINT(7,15),"A
":HPRINT(19,15),"S":HPRINT(31,15)
,"D":HPRINT(7,21),"Z":HPRINT(19
,21),"X":HPRINT(31,21),"C
6 I=0:J=61:HPUT(C(K),D(K))-(C(K)
+56,D(K)+24),4
7 J=J-1:HPRINT(1,1),"SCORE":HPR
INT(19,1),"HI-SCORE":HPRINT(16
,2),"TIME":HCOLOR2:HLINE(56,8)-(

```

## CoCo 3

## The Listing: PROMPT

```

100 READA$:FORI=1TOLEN(A$)STEP2:
B$=MID$(A$,I,2):IFB$="**" THEN R
ETURN ELSE POKEI,VAL("8H"+B$):L=
L+1:NEXT:GOTO100 "ML LOADER
110 DATA8E7F07BFAC7A39BD9588E7F
2EBDB99CB6095AB830BD2828E7F3ABD
B99C1F40931FBDBCCDB9588EABEDBD
B99C3920204445628452202320020
2046524545204D454D2002029*

```

# W

hen I am working in BASIC, I find it convenient to know which drive is currently selected and how much free space I have in memory. The short program shown here modifies the BASIC interpreter to display this information every time the OK prompt is displayed.

Enter the program as shown and save it to tape or disk. When you run it, a short machine-language routine that handles the modification is installed in memory. After this, you'll see the drive number and free memory displayed. (Users with tape-based systems will see a drive number, though it won't really mean anything.)

Once the program has been run, you can save the machine-language portion to disk by entering

SAVEM"prompt",&H7F00,&H7F47,&H7F

Afterward, you can enter the following two commands to change your prompt:

```
CLEAR 200,&H7EFF
LOADM"prompt":EXEC
```

(Tape users should change SAVEM and LOADM above to CSAVEM and CLOADM.)

While the modification is in place, don't press Reset. Doing so removes the modification and you'll have to run the program again. Also, while intended for the CoCo 3, the program works on the Coco 1 and 2 as long as the computer is put in the all-RAM mode first.

## Feature Program

# HSCREENS:

## Cut 'em Down to Size

by Joel Mathew Hegberg

Let's face it, HSCREEN picture files take up way too much storage space. Some would argue that it's a small price to pay for the advanced graphics resolution and color capabilities the Color Computer 3 provides.

But each image eats up 16 granules of disk space; you can store only four pictures on a standard 35-track single-sided disk! When I think about this, I can't help but remember the days of PMODE screens, which occupied a mere three granules each. Wouldn't it be nice to have some way to shrink HSCREEN picture files in an effort to achieve this same level of disk-space conservation? Now there is a way — *CompSaver* and *CompLoader*.

*CompSaver* is a graphics utility that compresses and saves HSCREEN images to disk. Its brother program, *CompLoader*, handles loading these compressed images, decompressing them at load time. In my experience, 90 percent of HSCREEN images are not too detailed. These pictures can usually be compressed down to six granules or less. The other 10 percent contain more detail and take up anywhere from 10 to 18 granules.

To get started, enter the programs shown in listings 1 and 2, and save them to disk as

*CMPSAVE.BAS* and *CMPLLOAD.BAS*, respectively. It is important that you save them before you run them, especially if you have made any modifications or corrections. When executed, these programs poke machine-language routines into memory. Both programs check the data statements for errors as they perform this task.

The picture to be compressed must first be loaded into memory. Any image created by a BASIC program should not present a problem, and other images can be loaded using one of the many viewers we've seen over the years. There are some things to remember, though. Since *CompSaver* saves the palettes along with the image, make sure you don't alter the palette settings by entering RGB or CMP, or by pressing Reset.

Once the image is in memory, run *CMPSAVE* (Listing 1). When you are prompted to enter the name of the picture, enter a standard filename (up to eight characters) with no extension. You are then asked to enter the HSCREEN in which the image is stored in memory. Enter 1, 2, 3 or 4, accordingly. (Most CoCo 3 images are stored in HSCREEN 2.) After this, your picture is saved to disk by a machine-language routine. (I used machine language because of its tremendous speed advantages over BASIC for this type of task.)

Loading a compressed image is easy, too. Run *CMPLLOAD* (Listing 2) and enter the name of the file. The machine-language loading routine takes over and, after the picture is loaded, it is displayed on the screen.

The machine-language routines in *CMPSAVE* and *CMPLLOAD* are completely relocatable. If you have experience with assembly, feel free to move these routines around if they cause conflicts with one of your own machine-language creations.

Now you can enjoy all those HSCREEN pictures without breaking the bank buying disks.

*Joel Mathew Hegberg* has been programming for nine years and enjoys writing software for the Color Computer and the MM/1. Some of his creations are commercially available through Sub-Etha Software. Joel may be contacted at 936 N. 12th St., De Kalb, IL 60115-2516, (815) 748-6638. Please include an SASE when requesting a reply.

CoCo 3

### Listing 1: CMPSAVE

```

1 *COMPRESSED HSCREEN SAVER
2 *BY JOEL HEGBERG
3 *COPYRIGHT (C) 1992
4 *BY FALSOFT, INC.
5 *RAINBOW MAGAZINE
10 '
20 : COMPRESSED HSCREEN SAVER
30 : BY JOEL MATHEW HEGBERG
40 : 936 NORTH TWELFTH STREET
50 : DE KALB, IL 60115
60 :
70 :
80 CLEAR1000,31000 'DEFAULT ADDR
ESS 31000
90 RESTORE:LC=31000 'DEFAULT LOC
ATION 31000
100 LL=0:TL=0:LN=1000:LK=LC
110 READ A$:IF A$="**"THEN 160
120 IF LEN(A$)<2 THEN V=VAL("H"
+A$):POKE LC,V:LL=LL+V:LC=LC+1:G
OTO 110
130 V=VAL(A$):IF V=LL THEN TL=TL+
LL:LL=0:LN=LN+1:GOTO110
140 PRINT"ERROR WITH DATA IN":PR
INT"LINE #":LN
150 STOP
160 READ A$:V=VAL(A$):TL=TL+LL
170 IF TL=V THEN 200
180 PRINT"ERROR IN DATA STATEMEN
TS."
190 STOP
200 CLS:PRINT"ENTER NAME OF PICT
URE."
210 LINE INPUT">":NM$:NM$=NM$+".
CPS"
220 PRINT"WHICH HSCREEN? (1-4)"
230 INPUT HS:HS=INT(HS):IF HS<1
OR HS>4 THEN SOUND1,5:GOTO200
240 OPEN"O",#1,NM$:POKE LK,HS:PO
KE LK+1,0
250 EXEC LK+2
260 CLOSE #1:SOUND200,3
270 PRINT NM$;" IS SAVED."

```

### Listing 2: CMPLLOAD

```

1 'COMPRESSED HSCREEN LOADER
2 *BY JOEL HEGBERG
3 *COPYRIGHT (C) 1992
4 *BY FALSOFT, INC.
5 *RAINBOW MAGAZINE
10 '
20 : COMPRESSED HSCREEN LOADER
30 : BY JOEL MATHEW HEGBERG
40 : 936 NORTH TWELFTH STREET
50 : DE KALB, IL 60115
60 :
70 :
80 CLEAR1000,31000 'DEFAULT ADDR
ESS 31000
90 RESTORE:LC=31000 'DEFAULT LOC
ATION 31000
100 LL=0:TL=0:LN=1000:LK=LC
110 READ A$:IF A$="**"THEN 160
120 IF LEN(A$)<2 THEN V=VAL("H"
+A$):POKE LC,V:LL=LL+V:LC=LC+1:G
OTO 110
130 V=VAL(A$):IF V=LL THEN TL=TL+
LL:LL=0:LN=LN+1:GOTO110
140 PRINT"ERROR WITH DATA IN":PR
INT"LINE #":LN
150 STOP
160 READ A$:V=VAL(A$):TL=TL+LL
170 IF TL=V THEN 200
180 PRINT"ERROR IN DATA STATEMEN
TS."
190 STOP
200 CLS:PRINT"ENTER NAME OF PICT
URE."
210 LINE INPUT">":NM$:NM$=NM$+".
CPS"
220 OPEN"1",#1,NM$:EXEC LK+2
230 HSCREEN PEEK(LK)
240 EXEC LK+23
250 CLOSE #1:SOUND 200,3
260 GOTO260
2000 DATA 2,0,6F,8D,0,DF,BE,40,0
,AF,8D,0,D9,8E,FF,B0,C6,10,86,21
37
1010 DATA 1,97,6F,A6,8C,E7,A0,9F
,A0,2,A6,8C,E1,AD,9F,A0,2,A6,80,
2613
1020 DATA 34,14,AD,9F,A0,2,35,14
,5A,C1,0,10,22,FF,EF,86,4A,AD,18
47
1030 DATA 9F,A0,2,86,4D,AD,9F,A0
,2,86,48,AD,9F,A0,2,A6,8D,0,9A,2
187
1040 DATA 1A,50,8B,70,B7,FF,A2,8
6,1,A7,8D,0,91,AE,8D,0,8A,A6,80,
2292
1050 DATA A7,8D,0,86,8C,5F,FF,10
,22,0,23,A6,8D,0,7C,81,FD,10,22,
1880
1060 DATA 0,19,A6,84,A1,8D,0,6F
,10,26,0,F,A6,80,A6,8D,0,66,8B,16
47
1070 DATA 1,A7,8D,0,60,16,FF,D6
,AF,8D,0,56,C6,1,D7,6F,A6,8D,0,21
30
1080 DATA 51,AD,9F,A0,2,A6,80,0
,48,AD,9F,A0,2,AE,8D,0,3E,8C,60,2
061
1090 DATA 0,10,25,FF,98,A6,8D,0
,32,8B,1,A7,8D,0,2C,81,1,10,22,14
91
1100 DATA 0,1E,8E,40,0,AF,8D,0,2
,0,A6,8D,FF,36,81,1,10,27,0,3,138
8
1110 DATA 16,FF,74,A6,8D,0,E,81
,1,10,23,FF,6A,86,7A,B7,FF,A2,211
2
1120 DATA 1C,AF,39,FF,FF,FF,FF,0
,**,25065

```

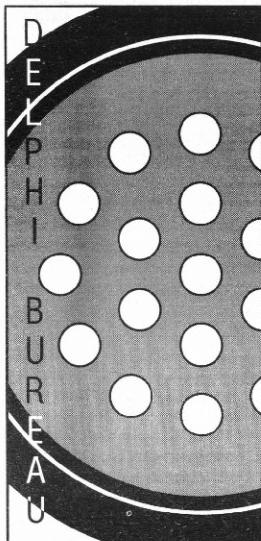
## Reviewer Information

In order to continue to bring Tandy Color Computer users all the best information about new hardware and software products each month, we are constantly looking for new people to join our independent review staff. Therefore, we invite you to join THE RAINBOW's elite fleet of reviewers.

You read THE RAINBOW because you love your Color Computer, so if you want a creative outlet and a chance to examine quality hardware and software, with your observations published nationwide, we want to hear from you.

Send us a cover letter with your name, address, occupation, list of equipment, areas of general interests, and a sample review of a CoCo product you are currently using. We look forward to your response. After all, we already see you have the best taste in computers.

Reply to: Reviews Editor, The Rainbow, The Falsoft Building, P.O. Box 385, Prospect, KY 40059



## Editing Forum Messages

Do you know that you can edit any messages you post in Forum? This comes in really handy whether you simply want to correct a few typing errors or need to change something that is much more important. Suppose a Forum thread has strayed from its original subject — the original message

asked a question about using RS-232 ports under OS-9 but you get sidetracked discussing the merits of a specific terminal program. To keep other users from getting confused, it is a good idea to edit the message's Subject to reflect this change. This is also courteous, especially to those who are

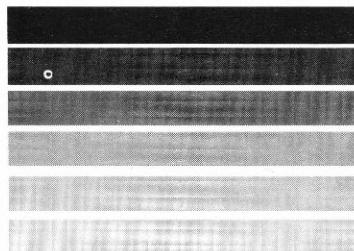
want to leave Browse early, press CTRL-Z.

You can create your own poll by using the CREATE command. When you enter CREATE, you are prompted for a poll name. Enter something that people will understand when they use the LIST command. Next, you are prompted for the poll type. There are three kinds of polls: 1) Yes/No; 2) strongly agree through strongly disagree (the person answering the poll has five choices); and 3) multiple choice, in which you enter specific choices, as Jim Reed did in the example.

If you choose to create a multiple-choice poll, Delphi allows you to enter up to 12 categories, each of which may be up to 20 characters in length. Enter your choices and press CTRL-Z. You can even opt to allow voters to add new categories when they vote. But remember that there can be only 12 categories altogether.

Finally, you are asked to enter your argument. The text you enter appears before the actual poll. In the sample poll from the CoCo SIG, Jim Reed started entering the text at "I was sitting here . . ."

Once you have created a poll, by all means vote on it. After all, you must have a reason for having created the poll in the first place. Then feel free to enter the forums of both SIGs and advertise your poll.



## The Delphi Voting Booth

Two areas on Delphi that appear to be underused are Poll in the CoCo SIG and Voting Booth in OS9 Online. Although their names differ, these areas have exactly the same function: they let you "speak your piece." Once you enter the Poll area, you'll see the POLL? prompt, where you have the options shown in Figure 2.

To see a list of the polls on which you can vote, simply enter LIST. All active polls will be displayed. To see the results of a specific poll, enter RESULTS poll name. (If you enter RESULTS by itself, you are prompted for the poll name.) You will see something like the text shown in Figure 3. After the votes for that poll are displayed, Delphi lists the comments voters added. Finally, you are prompted for whether or not you want to vote on that poll, even if you've already voted on it. If you answer Yes but have already voted on the Poll, Delphi asks if you want to change your previous vote. (No, Delphi doesn't support the Chicago-style "vote early, vote often" approach.)

Another way to vote on a specific poll is to use the VOTE command. As with the RESULTS command, you can either provide the poll name on the command line or let Delphi prompt you. After you enter your vote, Delphi allows you to enter a comment on the poll. Your comment is limited to about four 80-character lines.

If you have already voted on a poll and don't want to change your vote, but you do want to change your comment, use the EDIT command. If you created the poll, you also use EDIT to modify it.

The BROWSE command allows you to travel through each poll in sequence, giving you a chance to see how others voted. When you enter BROWSE, you start at the first active poll and end with the last. Of course if you

searching through the Forum looking for messages discussing specific topics.

Once you have posted a message, you can edit any part of it. While you can edit any message you have posted, you cannot edit another user's message. To get started, enter the following at the Forum prompt:

```
EDIT message-number
```

where *message-number* is the number of the message you want to edit. The Edit menu (shown in Figure 1) is displayed. As with many other Forum commands, you can enter EDIT by itself to edit the current message. Enter EDIT ? to see the many other options it supports.

To change the subject of the message you are editing, enter SUBJECT (or an appro-

priate abbreviation) at the EDIT> prompt. Do so, or press ENTER by itself to retain the current subject. To also change the topic of the message, enter TOPIC at the EDIT> prompt and follow a similar procedure. If you forget what the current message's subject and topic are, enter SHOW to display the message header and the first line or so of the message. You can also delete a Forum message from the Edit menu (by entering DELETE or DEL), although it's much easier to use the DELETE command directly from the FORUM> prompt.

If you want to edit the body text of the message, enter TEXT at the EDIT> prompt. This drops you into your selected editor (EDT or Oldie). Within the editor, you can change all the text of the Forum message, much as you might use your editor to edit a file in Workspace. If your chosen editor is EDT, you'll need to enter EXIT to return from the editor to the EDIT> prompt. Users of Oldie should enter /E to exit.

When you have finished editing the Forum message, press CTRL-Z at the EDIT> prompt (or enter EXIT) to return to the FORUM> prompt.

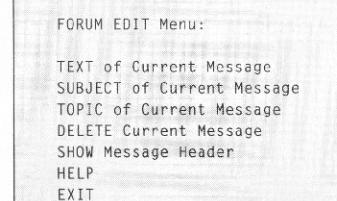


Figure 1: Forum Edit Menu

*Eddie Kuns is pursuing a doctorate in physics at Rutgers University. He lives in Aurora, Illinois, and works as a programmer and researcher at Fermilab. Eddie is the database manager of the OS-9 SIG and can be reached online as EDDIEKUNS.*

priate abbreviation) at the EDIT> prompt. Delphi prompts you to enter the new sub-

```
BROWSE through poll results  
CREATE a new poll  
EDIT your poll comment  
HELP  
LIST poll names  
RESULTS with comments  
VOTE on a poll  
EXIT
```

Figure 2: Poll Menu

SCREEN VIEWING DISTANCE, created by JIMREED.  
Creation date: MAY 16, 1989

I was sitting here staring at the screen a bit closer than normal for me and began wondering how far from the screen most people sit. I was thinking about something and realized I was only 12 inches from the screen. Usually, I sit about 16 inches away — not that far! So, when you are using the computer, how far away are your eyes from the screen surface?

CHOICE	VOTES	PERCENT
Less than 12 inches	2	2%
12 to 14 inches	1	1%
14 to 16 inches	1	1%
16 to 18 inches	9	11%
18 to 20 inches	13	16%
20 to 22 inches	15	18%
24 to 30 inches	32	40%
30 to 36 inches	5	6%
over three feet!	1	1%
TOTAL VOTE:	79	

Figure 3: Sample Poll



With the CoCo 1 and 2, it is especially important to make sure the printer is online before sending data to it. Include the following line in your BASIC programs to determine whether or not the printer is ready:

```
A=(PEEK(65314) AND 1)
```

If the value returned in Variable A is 1, the printer is *not* ready. (You can use any numeric variable in place of A.)

## Conference Schedule

Several regularly scheduled conferences take place in the CoCo and OS9 Online SIGs. On the first Monday of each month, Steve Bjork discusses game programming, and on the second Monday of each month, Tim Kientzle and I have a conference about using Delphi.

In addition to the two monthly conferences, there are four weekly conferences:

- Thursday — OS-9 Help Line  
led by Chris Deierlein
- Thursday — RiBBS Help/Talk Conference  
led by Charles West
- Friday — The Art and Science of UUCP  
led by Rick Adams and Trix
- Saturday — AcBBS  
led by Chris Serino and the authors of AcBBS

All regularly scheduled conferences take place at 10 p.m. Eastern time. There are also many spontaneous conferences. Remember that anyone whose name is surrounded by parenthesis when you do a /WHO command is in the conference area.

## **Uploads at a Glance**

In the OS9 Online General Information database, **Michael Dalene** (MDALENE) posted a demo for the Star-Gemini NX-1020 Rainbow printer, showing off the printer's features as well as demonstrating how to integrate escape codes into a text file using the VI editor. If you want to look through the databases to see what's there but don't want to spend several hours online searching file by file for something interesting, download **Greg Law's** (GREGL) contribution: 15 files listing all the groups (with descriptions) in each database topic. **Paul Wright** (PWRIGHT) posted transcripts

for an AcBBS conference as well as a C conference.

In the Applications database topic, **Paul M. Fitch, Jr.** (EMTWO) released a new error command that works with the help command **Tim Kientzle** (TIMKIENTZLE) posted a couple of years ago. The new error command prints verbose descriptions of OS-9 error numbers. In the Telecom (6809) database, **Ken Flanagan** (KENFLANAGAN) released the latest version of **Scribe**, a program that allows you to read mail messages offline when you receive .QWK packets.

If you've been having trouble using the PCDOS version of CC3Disk together with Bruce Isted's serial-mouse patch for the

CoCo, you'll be interested in Jim Martin's file describing how to fix the interrupt conflict between the two devices. In the Programmers Den topic, **Robert Kemper** (BOBKEMPER) released an archive of information to help BASIC09 programmers. **Don Berrie** released CENV — a point and click environment for the C compiler on the CoCo.

In the OSK Applications database, **Eric Crichtlow** (HYPERTech) released *Image Master*, an icon and sprite editor designed for the MM/I under KWwindows. If you have never used make to maintain a program but want to, take a look at the examples **Glen Hathaway** (COMPER) posted in the Tutorials database.

In the CoCo SIG CoCo 3 Graphics database, **Chet Simpson** (HYPERTech) released a new version of *Image Master*. This version is customized for the special features of the 6309 and uses block moves to really speed up things. In the Utilities & Applications database, **M. David Johnson** (MDJOHNSON) released a number of utilities designed to work with CF83 — a version of Standard Forth '83. **Richard McNabb** (RICKMAC) released a new version of DIRU3, which allows copying files between disks and many other disk-maintenance functions.

In the Games database, **Johnny Williams** (DRILLMASTER) uploaded a slot-machine program for the CoCo 3.

## **DATABASE REPORT**

### **OS-9 SIG**

#### **General Information**

STAR NX-1020 SHOWS OFF	
MDALENE	Michele Dalene
SCSI ADAPTOR ANNOUNCEMENT	
FHOGG	Frank Hogg
DATABASE LISTINGS	
GREGL	Greg Law
OS-9 COMMUNITY NETWORK INFO. AUG	
AIRWOLF2	Greg Morgan
CONFRENCE TRANSCRIPTS	
PWRIGHT	Paul Wright

#### **Applications (6809)**

ERROR/HELP:REPLACEMENT ERROR CMD	
EMTWO	Paul M. Fitch, Jr.
STREAM: HARD DRIVE BACKUP UTIL	
JENG	John Eng
GETIME: CLOCK SETTING UTIL	
BLAINET	Blaine Tempest
REPACK FIX FOR KRN1 PATCH	
COCOXT	Christopher Burke
DBL 2: DOUBLE SIDED PRINTER	
WOAY	Jim Martin

#### **Telecom (6809)**

SCRIBE 4.0 OFFLINE READER	
KENFLANAGAN	Ken Flanagan

#### **System Modules (6809)**

SMOUSE INTERRUPT CLASH FIX	
WOAY	Jim Martin

#### **Games & Graphics**

STRIP POKER FOR OS9	
DEANHOLDER	Dean Holder
PIXSHOW - MM/I .PIX VIEWER	
BRUCEGERST	Bruce Gerst
HANGMAN V2.4	
MOHRT	Tim Mohr

#### **Music & Sound**

BLADE RUNNER: STEREO SOUND	
JOHNSON	John Baer

#### **Programmers Den**

BASIC09 HELP FILES	
BOBKEMPER	Robert Kemper
CENV:C COMPILER USER INTERFACE	
DAHERRIE	Don Berrie

#### **OSK Applications**

PSF: TEXT TO POSTSCRIPT CONV.	
MARKGRIFFITH	Mark Griffith
DVI2EP2: DVI TO EPSON CONVERTER	
JOHNREED	John Wainwright
IMAGE MASTER	
HYPERTITE	Eric Crichtlow
GNU INDENT EXECUTABLE	
NIMITZ	David Graham
TSTART: COLORIZE TASCOM	
COMPER	Glen Hathaway
DIRECTORY COPIER	
COMPER	Glen Hathaway

#### **Tutorials & Education**

ELM INSTALLER SH-SCRIPT	
THEFERRET	Philip Brown
SAMPLE MAKE FILES	
COMPER	Glen Hathaway

#### **Standards**

IFF FILE SPECIFICATIONS	
MDALENE	Michele Dalene

#### **CoCo SIG**

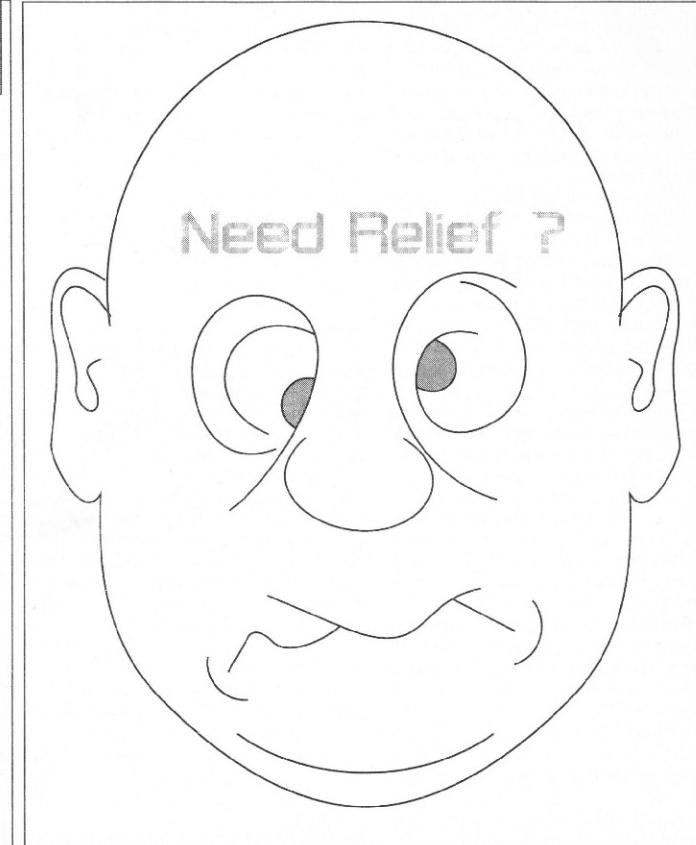
CoCo 3 Graphics	
IMAGE MASTER V4.0	
HYPERTECH	Chet Simpson

#### **Utilities & Applications**

CF83 BLOCK/FILE CONVERSIONS	
MDJOHNSON	M. David Johnson
CF83 PMODE GRAPHICS TEXT CHARACT	
MDJOHNSON	M. David Johnson
CF83 BENCHMARK	
MDJOHNSON	M. David Johnson
CF83 TEXT SCREEN CONTROL	
MDJOHNSON	M. David Johnson
DIRECTORY TO ASCII FILE.	
MDJOHNSON	M. David Johnson
TWO DISK DIR/FILE UTIL UPDATE	
RICKMAC	Richard McNabb

#### **Games**

SLOTCOCO.BAS	
DRILLMASTER	

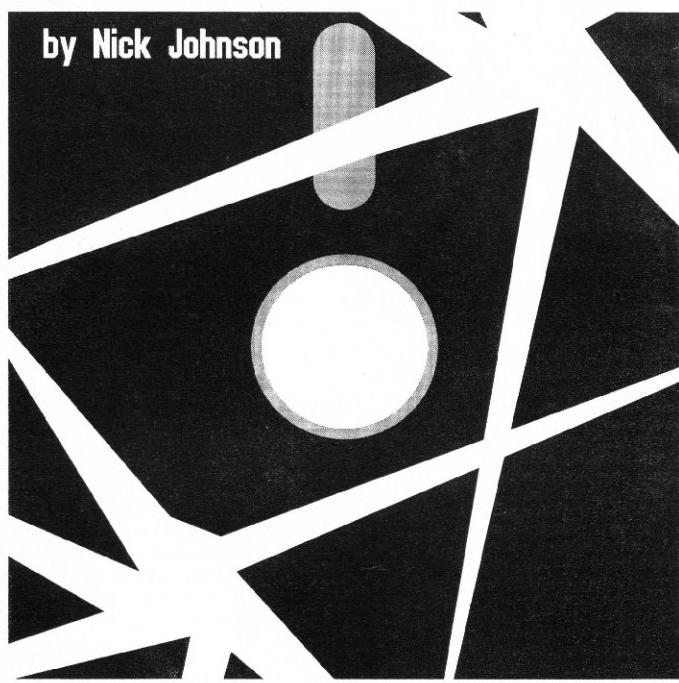


**THE RAINBOW TO THE RESCUE**  
**SEE PAGE 14**

## Feature Program

# NO MORE DISK FRAGMENTS!

by Nick Johnson



Disk Extended Color BASIC is antiquated in that it includes many compensations for the unreliable hardware of its time. These include long timing delays (to allow the motor to come up to speed) and intentional fragmentation of disk data (to prevent undue wear on the disks).

When was the last time you noticed "wear" on one of your disks? Chances are, you haven't. Yet Disk BASIC insists on scattering file data across your disks in an attempt to spread the "wear" as thinly as possible. It does this by storing files from the directory track (Track 17) outward (toward the outside *and* inside edges of the media), alternating on a granule-by-granule basis.

The unfortunate result of all this is an increase in access time, especially for larger files. This decrease is even more noticeable if the files are frequently used.

To overcome this decrease in performance, I wrote *CoCo Disk Defragmentor*. This program takes the bits and pieces of the files on a disk and puts them *together*, storing the result on a new disk. In the process, it rewrites the granule table.

*CoCo Disk Defragmentor* requires two disk drives and works with any CoCo having at least 32K of memory. If you use a CoCo 3, the computer is set to 32-column screen (if it is not already there) and Super-Extended BASIC is disabled (the "CoCo-2 mode"). To regain access to the CoCo 3 functions (perhaps to run a listing), enter

```
CLEAR 200,32768:POKE 65503,0
```

To use *CoCo Disk Defragmentor*, first enter the program exactly as it appears in the listing, and save it to disk. When you enter RUN, a menu appears showing you the program's three options: Begin Defragmentation, Display Granule Table and Quit.

To defragment a disk, press B. Make sure the disk you want to defragment is write protected (to prevent data loss should

a crash occur). Now insert the disk into Drive 0, put a blank formatted disk in Drive 1, then press ENTER. As the program goes to work, the screen displays the current filename, operation, track and sector, granule number and drive number. This allows you to monitor the operation. Depending upon the number of files on the original disk, defragmentation may take from one to 10 minutes. Finally, never reuse or get rid of the original disk. You may need it later for backup purposes.

The Display Granule Table option shows

you the granule table for the disk in Drive 0. Granules are numbered from 0 to 67, and each entry in the table points to the next granule in the file. Granules that begin with a C (as in hexadecimal C4) indicate how many sectors are used in the last granule of the file. You can use this option to examine the effects of defragmentation.

Programs that expect to find certain information on specific sectors of the disk won't function properly when they are defragmented; this will be encountered more often with machine-language programs than with BASIC. Defragmentation is basically an organized COPY—it does not back up the entire disk—and *CoCo Disk Defragmentor* does not know these programs have special requirements.

I hope you enjoy using this handy little utility. If you have any comments, suggestions or questions, feel free to write.

CoCo 3

The Listing: DISKFRAG

```

1 'DISK DEFREAGMENTOR
2 'BY NICK JOHNSON
3 'COPYRIGHT (C) 1992
4 'BY FALSOFT, INC.
5 'RAINBOW MAGAZINE
10 VERIFYON
20 IF PEEK(&HFFFF)=27 THEN WD=PEEK(&HE7):EXEC &HF652:POKE 65502,0
30 PCLEAR 1
40 DV=PEEK(&H95A)
50 CLEAR 2000:DIM F1$(168):DIM A$(10):DIM B$(18):DIM G(72)
60 CLS
70 PRINT" --> COCO DISK DEFRAAGMENT <--"
80 PRINT" --> BY NICK JOHNSON
90 PRINT:PRINT
100 PRINTTAB(6)"BEGIN DEFRAAGMENTATION"
110 PRINT
120 PRINTTAB(6)"DISPLAY GRANULE TABLE"
130 PRINT
140 PRINTTAB(6)"QUIT"
150 PRINT@100,STRING$(25,207):PRINT@292,STRING$(25,207)
160 FOR X=4 TO 8:PRINT@((X*32)+4,CHR$(207)::PRINT@((X*32)+28,CHR$(207)::NEXT X
170 PRINT@384
180 AS=INKEY$:IF AS="" THEN 180
190 IF INSTR("BDQ",AS)=0 THEN 180
200 IF AS="B" THEN 220 ELSE IF A$="D" THEN 1200 ELSE IF AS="Q" THEN 210
210 GOSUB 1810:CLEAR 200,32768:I
F PEEK(&HFFFF)=27 THEN POKE 65503,0:POKE &HE7,WD:END
220 CLS
230 AS="DEFRAAGMENTATION"
240 GOSUB 1350
250 PRINT"INSERT A BLANK, FORMAT
TED DISK IN DRIVE 1."
260 PRINT:PRINT"INSERT THE FRAGM
ENTED DISK IN DRIVE 0."
270 PRINT:PRINT"PRESS [enter] WH
EN READY."
280 IF INKEY$<>CHR$(13) THEN 280
290 CLS
300 AS="DEFRAAGMENTATION IN PROGR
ESS"
310 GOSUB 1350
320 PRINT:FAT$=""
330 PRINTTAB(5)"PRESS [ENTER] TO
ABORT."
340 PRINT@160,"FILENAME"
350 PRINT@192,"CURRENT OP:"
360 PRINT@224,"TRACK, SECTOR"
370 PRINT@256,"GRANULE"
380 PRINT@288,"DRIVE"
390 PRINT
400 FS="" :OP$="READING DIRECTORY
":I=-1:S=-1:G=-1:D=0
410 GOSUB 1480
420 'READ THE DIRECTORY.
430 GOSUB 1810
440 FOR I=3 TO 11
450 DSKI$0,17,I,A$(I-1),B$(I-1)
460 S=I:T=17:GOSUB 1480
470 NEXT I
480 GOSUB 1790
490 OP$="PROCESSING DIR":T=-1:D=
-1:GOSUB 1480
500 P=2
510 N=I:0=1
520 IF (N-1)*32>=128 THEN 570 EL
SE 0$=MID$(A$(P),(N-1)*32+1,32)
530 IF ASC(0$)=0 THEN N=N+1:GOTO
520
540 IF ASC(A$(P))=255 OR ASC(0$)=
255 THEN 650
550 F1$(0)=0$
560 IF (N-1)*32>=128 THEN 570 EL
SE N=N+1:0=0+1:GOTO 520
570 N=1
580 IF (N-1)*32>=128 THEN 630 EL
SE 0$=MID$(B$(P),(N-1)*32+1,32)
590 IF ASC(0$)=0 THEN N=N+1:GOTO
580
600 IF ASC(B$(P))=255 OR ASC(0$)=
255 THEN 650
610 F1$(0)=0$
620 IF (N-1)*32>=128 THEN 630 EL
SE N=N+1:0=0+1:GOTO 580
630 P=P+1:IF P>11 THEN 650
640 N=1:GOTO 520
650 '
660 0=0-1 '0 IS # OF FILES
670 OP$="READING FAT"
680 T=17:S=2:D=0
690 GOSUB 1480
700 GOSUB1810:DSKI$0,17,2,A$(1),
B$(1)
710 GOSUB1790:GR=0 'LAST AVAILAB
LE GRN ON NEW DISK
720 FOR K=1 TO 0 'OUTER LOOP
730 IF INKEY$=CHR$(13) THEN 50
740 FS=LEFT$(F1$(K),11)
750 OP$="ANALYZING FILE":T=-1:D=
-1:G=-1:GOSUB 1480
760 FG=ASC(MID$(F1$(K),14,1)):EG
=FG '1ST GRAN
770 LB=ASC(MID$(F1$(K),15,1))*25
6+ASC(MID$(F1$(K),16,1))
780 GK=GR
790 OP$="GRABBING GRANULE"
800 D=0:G=EG:GOSUB 1550
810 OP$="WRITING GRANULE."
820 D=1:G=GR:GOSUB 1680
830 OP$="CHECKING NEXT GR":D=-1:
T=-1:S=-1:G=-1:GOSUB 1480
840 NG=ASC(MID$(A$(1),EG+1,1))
850 IF NG>192 THEN 930
860 EG=NG:GR=GR+1
870 OP$="UPDATING FAT":D=1:T=17:
S=2:G=-1:GOSUB 1480
880 FATS=FAT$+CHR$(GR)
890 GOSUB 1810
900 DSK0$1,17,2,FAT$,""
910 GOSUB 1790
920 GOTO 790
930 OP$="UPDATING FAT":D=1:T=17:
S=2:G=-1:GOSUB 1480
940 FATS=FAT$+CHR$(NG):GR=GR+1
950 GOSUB 1810
960 DSK0$1,17,2,FAT$,""
970 GOSUB 1790
980 NEXT K
990 OP$="UPDATING DIR":D=1:G=-1
1000
1010 FI=1:FOR MS=2 TO 10
1020 FOR I=14 TO 128 STEP 32
1030 MID$(A$(MS),I,1)=CHR$(G(FI))
1040 FI=FI+1
1050 NEXT I
1060 FOR I=14 TO 128 STEP 32
1070 MID$(B$(MS),I,1)=CHR$(G(FI))
1080 FI=FI+1
1090 NEXT I:NEXT MS
1100 FATS=FAT$+STRING$(68-LEN(FA$),
255)
1110 T=17:S=2:F$=""
1120 GOSUB 1480
1130 GOSUB 1810:DSK0$1,17,2,FAT$="":
GOSUB 1790
1140 FOR I=3 TO 11
1150 GOSUB 1810
1160 DSK0$1,17,I,A$(I-1),B$(I-1)
1170 GOSUB 1790
1180 NEXT I
1190 GOTO 50
1200 CLS
1210 FC=0
1220 AS="GRANULE TABLE: "
1230 GOSUB 1350
1240 GOSUB 1810
1250 DSKI$ DV,17,2,A$,B$,
1260 GOSUB 1790
1270 PRINTSTRING$(32,"-");
1280 FOR X=1 TO 68
1290 PRINT USING "% ";HEX$(ASC(
MID$(A$,X,1)));
1300 IF ASC(MID$(A$,X,1))=255 TH
EN FC=FC+1
1310 NEXT X
1320 PRINT:PRINT" FREE:":FC:PRIN
TSTRING$(32,"-");
1330 PRINT"PRESS ANY KEY."
1340 IF INKEY$="" THEN 60 ELSE 1
1350 X1=0:X2=31
1360 A=LEN(A$)
1370 B=FIX(A/2)
1380 B$=LEFT$(A$,B)
1390 C$=(MID$(A$,B+1,A-B+1))
1400 X2=X2-LEN(C$)
1410 IF X1>1 THEN PRINT@X1-1,
";
1420 PRINT@X1,B$;
1430 PRINT@X2,C$;
1440 X2=X2-1
1450 X1=X1+1
1460 IF X2=X1+(B-2) THEN 1470 EL
SE 1410
1470 PRINT@32,"";:RETURN
1480 '
1490 PRINT@171, USING"%"

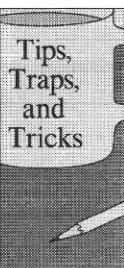
```

```
%";F$;
1500 PRINT@204, USING"%"
  *;OP$;
1510 PRINT@238,"";:IF T==1 OR S-
-1 THEN PRINT" ";:GOTO 1520
  ELSE PRINT USING "# #";T,S;
1520 PRINT@264,"";:IF G==1 THEN
  PRINT" ";:GOTO 1530 ELSE PRINT
G;
1530 PRINT@293,"";:IF D==1 THEN
  PRINT" ";:GOTO 1540 ELSE PRINT
D;
1540 RETURN
1550 '
1560 ST=FIX(G/2)
1570 IF G>33 THEN ST=ST+1
1580 IF G/2-FIX(G/2) THEN SS=1:M
1590 ELSE SS=10:M=9
1600 FOR Z=SS TO ES
1610 S=Z:T=ST:GOSUB 1480
1620 GOSUB 1810
1630 DSK1$D,ST,Z,C$(Z-M),D$(Z-M)
1640 GOSUB 1790
1650 NEXT Z
1660 RETURN
1670 '
1680 ST=FIX(G/2)
1690 IF G>33 THEN ST=ST+1
1700 IF G/2-FIX(G/2) THEN SS=1:M
1710 ES=SS+8
1720 FOR Z=SS TO ES
1730 S=Z:T=ST:GOSUB 1480
1740 GOSUB 1810
1750 DSK0$D,ST,Z,C$(Z-M),D$(Z-M)
1760 GOSUB 1790
1770 NEXT Z
1780 RETURN
1790 IF PEEK(&HFFFF)=27 THEN POKE
E 65497,0 ELSE POKE 65495,0
1800 RETURN
1810 IF PEEK(&HFFFF)=27 THEN POKE
E 65496,0 ELSE POKE 65494,0
1820 RETURN
```



Pressing the Reset button on the rear of the CoCo 3 does not clear the computer's memory. Yet turning the machine off and on again causes undue wear and tear. To completely reset the CoCo 3, erasing any programs in its memory, enter

POKE113,0:EXEC &H8C1B



**TIM KIENTZLE**

## When is an Interpreter Better?

Many programmers routinely dismiss BASIC for a reason that has nothing to do with the language itself: Typically BASIC is implemented on microcomputers as a fairly simple interpreter, and it has thus earned a reputation as a slow language even though BASIC compilers can be used to create programs that run just as fast as their counterparts in other languages. Curiously, other interpreted languages have not earned this reputation. PostScript, APL, Smalltalk and Forth are all typically interpreted (in some fashion), but none of these is considered notoriously slow as is BASIC. To understand the difference, let's go back to the early days of computers and consider the controversy that once surrounded subroutines.

At one time all programming was done in machine code for computers that were puny by today's standards. Programmers stretched every bit of speed and memory efficiency by carefully rearranging and combining operations to take best advantage of whatever partial routines might already be available. Eventually a trick was discovered that allowed programs to have only one copy of certain routines — this is what we now call subroutines. The drawback was that it takes time to call a subroutine and return from it, and many programmers thought this additional time would result in unduly slow programs. However, they discovered that in a typical computation, almost all the time required was spent performing the instructions within the subroutine, and that the time to call and return from the subroutine made the program only slightly slower. It was clear that the memory savings of using subroutines far outweighed the slight additional time needed for the program to run, and the technique became common. Eventually users began loading collections of widely-used subroutines into the machine with every program, and these collections of subroutines became what we now call operating systems.

Although few people today would question the value of a subroutine, almost exactly the same situation occurs with an

interpreted language. Each statement of the program being interpreted is really just a subroutine that results in a subroutine call within the interpreter. In this sense, the only difference between an interpreter and a compiler is that an interpreter figures out which subroutine to call as it reads each line, whereas a compiler figures this out once, and the compiled program simply calls the subroutines. What makes the interpreter slower is that it takes time to figure out which subroutine to call. If this time is a significant percentage of the total time, the interpreted version of the program is much slower. On the other hand, if the interpreter spends most of its time in the subroutines (i.e., actually doing the work), then the interpreted and compiled programs run at about the same speed.

The time needed to determine which subroutine to call is often referred to as the *interpretation overhead*. In a language like BASIC, a typical statement might cause two numbers to be added and stored in a variable. Since adding and moving numbers is very simple, the interpretation overhead does tend to take most of the time. In APL, a typical statement might cause a matrix to be inverted. Since inverting a matrix takes a very long time compared to the interpretation overhead, interpreted APL runs very nearly as fast as if it were compiled.

So, now we see that an interpreter can be very fast when the basic commands of the language perform very complex tasks. In PostScript, a single command can result in a very sophisticated (and time-consuming) graphics operation. This means that when selecting a language for writing a program, we should pay attention to how well the fundamental operations of the language match our job. Color BASIC, for example, does fairly well when the program emphasizes string, floating-point, and certain types of graphics operations. These are all relatively time-consuming operations that can be accomplished with only a few statements. BASIC does relatively poorly, however, when interpreting a program that performs extensive memory operations, since those are fairly simple operations.

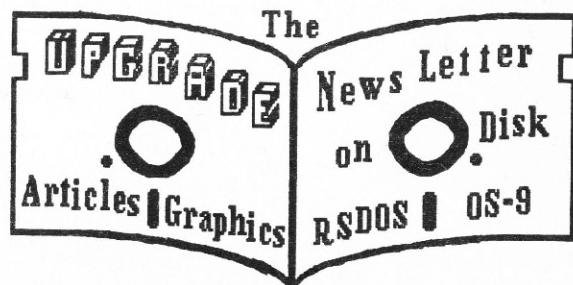
As we've seen, an interpreted language need not be significantly slower than a compiled one. In fact, interpreted languages have advantages. Compiled programs are typically larger than their original source code, and interpreters usually use less space for storing programs. It is also easier to make interpreters work interactively, which makes it easier to debug and test programs. Finally, compilation itself can be time-consuming, so interpreters are often preferred if the resulting program is going to

run only a few times, as is the case with PostScript.

Even for languages that lack powerful fundamental operations, we shouldn't completely dismiss interpreters since major advances are being made that allow interpreters to run much faster. Forth and Smalltalk usually perform part of the interpretation once, storing some of the useful information. This is sometimes called *pseudo compiling*. This kind of technique is being pushed to the limit by companies writing *emulation programs*. Emulators are interpreters that interpret the machine code of another machine. For example, emulators have been developed that run MS-DOS software on Macintosh, Unix, Atari and other computers. Since machine instruc-

tions perform very simple operations, emulators are usually the slowest kind of interpreter. Methods being developed now to make emulators usably fast will probably be used someday to help interpreters of BASIC and other languages run more quickly. Indeed, it seems certain that interpreters will be more and more important as computer technology improves.

*Tim Kientzle is currently pursuing a doctorate in mathematics at the University of California at Berkeley. He is the author of V-Term and has worked with the Color Computer since 1982.*



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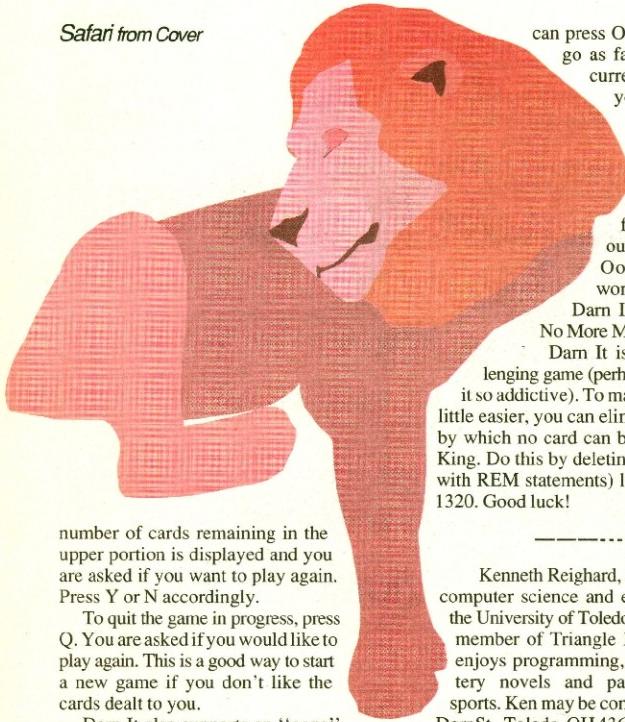
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## Safari from Cover



number of cards remaining in the upper portion is displayed and you are asked if you want to play again. Press Y or N accordingly.

To quit the game in progress, press Q. You are asked if you would like to play again. This is a good way to start a new game if you don't like the cards dealt to you.

Darn It also supports an "oops" function. If you make a wrong move, press O and the game undoes the last move. You

can press O repeatedly to go as far back in the current game as you want. This can be useful if you want to attempt a different strategy from a previous point. The Oops function works even after

Darn It displays the No More Moves message.

Darn It is a very challenging game (perhaps this is why it is so addictive). To make the game a little easier, you can eliminate the rule by which no card can be played on a King. Do this by deleting (or masking with REM statements) lines 1130 and 1320. Good luck!

Kenneth Reighard, Jr., is studying computer science and engineering at the University of Toledo, where he is a member of Triangle Fraternity. He enjoys programming, reading mystery novels and participating in sports. Ken may be contacted at 3355 Dor St., Toledo, OH 43607, (419) 531-8149. Please include an SASE when requesting a reply.

## CoCo 3

## The Listing: DARNIT

```

1 'DARN IT
2 'BY KENNETH REIGHARD, JR.
3 'COPYRIGHT (C) 1992
4 'BY FALSOFT, INC.
5 'RAINBOW MAGAZINE
100 DIM U$(52), C$(52), P$(52), G(6
,6), S(15), R(6), O(52)
105 CLS:INPUT"MONITOR (R/C)":O$:
IF O$="R" THEN MN=-1 ELSE IF O$=
"C" THEN MN=0 ELSE 105
107CLS
110 POKE 65497,0
115 ON BRK GOTO 180
119 GOSUB 1500 'BLANK SCREEN
120 GOSUB 1800 'DRAW CARDS
123 GOSUB 2400 'DRAW TITLES
125 GOSUB 1400 'RESET COLORS
127 GOSUB 2500 'PLAY MUSIC
130 GOSUB 200 'SHUFFLE CARDS
140 GOSUB 300 'DEAL CARD ARRAYS
150 GOSUB 400 'SET UP SCREEN
160 GOSUB 500 'PLAY GAME
165 HCOLOR 7:HPRINT(11,15),"Play
Again (Y/N)?"
170 Q$=INKEY$:IF Q$="Y" THEN HCLS
:GOTO 130 ELSE IF Q$="N" THEN 18
0 ELSE IF Q$="O" THEN GOSUB 2600
:HLINE(72,112)-(264,128),PRESET,
BF:GOTO 160 ELSE 170
180 GOSUB 1400:POKE 65496,0:CLS:
END
199 'SHUFFLE CARDS
200 FOR X=1 TO 52:U(X)=0:NEXT X
210 X=RND(-TIMER)
220 FOR X=1 TO 52
230 Y=RND(52):IF U(Y)<>0 THEN 23
0
240 U(Y)=1:C(X)=Y
245 NEXT X
250 RETURN
299 'SET UP CARD ARRAYS
300 P=1
310 FOR X=1 TO 6:FOR Y=1 TO 6
320 G(X,Y)=C(P)
325 P=P+1
330 NEXT Y,X
340 FOR X=1 TO 15
350 S(X)=C(X+36)
360 NEXT X
370 P(1)=C(52)
372 FOR X=1 TO 6:R(X)=6:NEXT X
374 Z=15:Q=1:CL=36:O=0
380 RETURN
399 'SET UP SCREEN
400 HCOLOR 4,8:HCLS
410 FOR X=1 TO 6:FOR Y=1 TO 6
420 C=G(X,Y):GOSUB 700
430 NEXT Y,X

```

```

1030 RETURN
1099 'PLAY CARD FROM GRID
1100 IF R(V)=0 THEN 1210
1120 CC=P(Q):GOSUB 800:QO=CC
1130 IF QO=13 THEN GOSUB 1600:GO
TO 1210
1140 IF NOT(CC=QO+1 OR CC=QO-1)
THEN GOSUB 1700:GOTO 1210
1150 X=V:Y=R(V):C=65:GOSUB 700
1160 O=0+1:P(Q)=G(V,R(V)):R(V)=R
(V)-1
1170 IF R(V)>0 THEN X=V:Y=R(V):C
=G(V,R(V)):GOSUB 700
1180 X=5:Y=17:C=P(Q):GOSUB 700
1185 O=0+1:O(O)=V
1190 PLAY"02L100ABDC"
1200 CL=CL-1
1210 RETURN
1299 'CHECK FOR LEGAL MOVES
1300 CM=0
1310 CC=P(Q):GOSUB 800:QO=CC
1320 IF QO=13 THEN 1370
1330 FOR X=1 TO 6
1335 IF R(X)=0 THEN 1360
1340 CC=G(X,R(X)):GOSUB 800
1350 IF CC=QO+1 OR CC=QO-1 THEN
CM=-1
1360 NEXT X
1370 RETURN
1399 'SET COLORS
1400 IF MN THEN RGB ELSE CMP
1410 RETURN
1499 'SET COLORS TO BLACK
1500 FOR X=0 TO 8:PALETTE X,0:NE
XT X
1510 RETURN
1599 'PLAY ON KING MESSAGE
1600 HCOLOR 3:HPRINT(6,15),"Can
t play a card on a King."
1610 PLAY"10002ECECECECECECECE
CP8"
1620 HLINE(48,120)-(272,128),PRE
SET,BF
1630 RETURN
1699 'ILLEGAL MOVE MESSAGE
1700 HCOLOR 3:HPRINT(13,15),"Il
legal Move."
1710 PLAY"10001CACACACACACACACA
CA"
1720 HLINE(104,120)-(208,128),PR
ESET,BF
1730 RETURN
1799 'DRAW CARD TEMPLATES
1800 HCOLOR 8,4:HSCREEN 2
1810 FOR X=1 TO 6
1820 HBUFF X,993
1830 HLINE(6,7)-(42,61),PSET,B
1840 ON X GOSUB 1900,1930,1960.1
990,2020,2040
1850 HGET(6,7)-(40,61),X
1860 HCLS
1870 NEXT X
1880 A$="U10NF5G5"
1890 RETURN
1900 HDRAW"C3BM23,38H5U2ER2F2E2R
2FD2G5C8"
1910 HPAINT(22,36),3,3
1920 RETURN
1930 HDRAW"C3BM23,38H5E5F5G5C8"
1940 HPAINT(22,36),3,3
1950 RETURN
1960 HDRAW"BM23,38LU3G2H2E2R2H2E
3F3G2R2F2G2H2D3L"
1970 HPAINT(23,36),8,8
1980 RETURN

```





# Prevent Monitor Burn-in by Frank D'Urso

If you've ever written a program that uses `INKEY$` (or any similar procedure) to pause for user input, this utility is for you. While the computer is waiting, your monitor or television is burning ever onward. A screen saver is designed to either blank the screen or display moving graphics in an attempt to keep the screen image from being burned onto the inside of the monitor. My version, which for the sake of simplicity I call Screen Saver, gives you moving graphics along with musical tones. Even if you decide not to use it to save your monitor, it's fun to watch the program do its work.

Screen Saver is designed to relieve your monitor as well as your eyes and ears. Updating previous graphics screen ideas, I've linked sounds to match the x and y coordinates of a series of lines that move in a "three-dimensional" space. The lines begin at the top of the screen and flutter, twist and bounce around the monitor across a black background. After every 400 or so lines appear, the color used to draw them is changed.

Screen Saver can be run as a stand-alone program, or it can be incorporated as a

subroutine from `INPUT`-type statements in your BASIC creations. To see the program in action, first enter it as shown and save it to tape or disk. Then run it and enjoy.

The program uses the high-speed poke (Line 80) for operation. If you press BREAK, Line 80 has also set up a "trap" to send the program to Line 390 where normal speed is restored. If the program crashes, enter either `POKE 65496,0` or `RUN 390` to slow the computer. Never try to save or load programs while the CoCo is in the high-speed mode.

Screen Saver is fun to watch and listen to. I hope it adds to your enjoyment and becomes a useful part of your own programming efforts.

Frank D'Urso has a degree in communications from Northeastern University and is currently pursuing a masters in government at Harvard. He has worked in advertising, and he enjoys art, music and computer games. Frank may be contacted at 38 Westford St., Saugus, MA 01906, (617) 666-2137. Please include an SASE when requesting a reply.

## CoCo 3

### The Listing: SSAVER

```

1 'SCREEN SAVER
2 'BY FRANK D'URSO
3 'COPYRIGHT (C) 1992
4 'BY FALSOFT, INC.
5 'RAINBOW MAGAZINE
70 A=8
80 PALETTE RGB:POKE 65497,0:HSCR
EEN2:HCLSA:ON BRK GOTO 390
90 X=RND(2)
100 D=RND(3)
110 B=RND(3)
120 Q=RND(3)
130 Z=RND(7)
140 Z=Z+1
150 IF Z>8 THEN Z=Z*0
160 FOR Y=1 TO 400
170 B=B+1:S=S+.1:D=D+0
180 IF B>250 THEN B=B-3
190 Y=Y+1
200 HCOLOR Z

```

## Product Review

### The MM/1 Technical Reference Manual

The MM/1 Technical Reference Manual consists of ninety-one 6-by-8½ pages in a looseleaf binder. It was written by Mark Griffith and Carl Kreider, two programmers with a great deal of experience (and no little renown) in the OS-9 world. As a technical guide to the MM/1 68000-based computer, does the manual live up to the standards one expects of this team? Well, yes... and no. Let's look at the no side first.

The MM/1 Technical Reference Manual lacks many of the components often considered essential in a reference intended for technicians who are expected to repair or upgrade a modern microcomputer. There are no complete parts lists, no complete schematics and no diagnostic code reference (though a call to Interactive Media Systems confirmed that the ROMs do supply diagnostic codes to the technician).

From a production aspect, there are a few irritating problems. Pages iii and iv in the Table of Contents cover only seven of 15 chapters. Pages i and ii do not exist in the copy I received, leaving me to wonder just what was left out. In addition, some pages

exhibit reproduction problems, which would ordinarily be simply annoying. However, the edges of some of the partial schematics wander close to the edges of the pages, some labels have been "truncated" (a nice word for cut off). In certain places, cross references and tables are not where the book indicates. Finally, some of the information provided in the MM/1 Technical Reference Manual is out of date, left behind by rapid changes in the drivers and descriptors during this powerhouse machine's infancy.

What is in the MM/1 Technical Reference Manual? The manual contains a lot of information useful to programmers. For instance, Chapter 3 provides a discussion of the MM/1 memory maps. That's right, maps is plural. The MM/1 has separate memory maps for the one-, three- and nine-mega-byte systems.

Chapter 12 supplies a fairly comprehensive table of jumper settings. The only problem here is that, while it tells you which jumper does what, the manual fails to describe which features the various jumper settings select, leaving this as an exercise for the technician.

Chapters 6 and 7 discuss the MM/1 SCSI system, and the use of SCSI hard drives, respectively. Chapter 6 is not a complete guide to programming a SCSI driver, but it

does provide enough information to give the user an understanding of the MM/1 SCSI driver system. Chapter 7 is very informative discussion of how to add new hard drives to the MM/1. Floppy drives are thoroughly discussed in Chapter 8, as is the use of `dmode` to change disk formats.

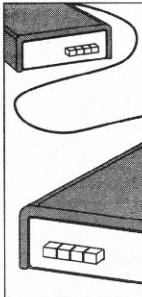
In my opinion, the meat of the MM/1 Technical Reference Manual is in chapters 9 and 10, which explain the characteristics of the MM/1's I/O chips. The information given here does not represent a complete guide to the chips in general (the text explains that this is due to the increased complexity of the LSI devices used in the MM/1). Rather, these chapters outline those features specific to the MM/1. Here you will find the addresses of those registers and ports actually used in the MM/1 system. These chapters offer some useful hints on such items as how to determine the status of the CD line and how to toggle keyboard and floppy-drive interrupts.

While chapters 9 and 10 do not disclose complete technical data on every chip in the MM/1, Chapter 15 supplies you with addresses where you can obtain complete manuals for each chip. My online sources tell me the volume of data available from the companies listed in Chapter 15 (especially Signetics) is nothing short of phenomenal!

How does the MM/1 Technical Reference Manual compare with other technical manuals? To answer this question, I asked several technicians for their opinions. MS-DOS support personnel raved about the layout of the manual and called it "Superb ... an outstanding manual that is easy to read." Technicians who work with peripheral equipment and Unix systems were less happy, stating that the lack of schematics, parts lists and diagnostic-code references made the manual more suitable for programmers than for hardware repair sites.

Even for the price of \$49.95, the MM/1 Technical Reference Manual forms a priceless source of data for software developers striving to carry on the traditions founded by the CoCo Community. (Interactive Media Systems, 1840 Biltmore St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20009; \$49.95.)

— David M. Graham

**INTERCOM****Pen pals**

I have a 128K CoCo 3 with an FD-502 disk drive, a DMP-106 printer and a color TV. I would like to hear from pen pals between the ages of 8 and 12, but I will write to people of all ages.

*Kevin Smith  
1958 Washington Avenue  
Portland, ME 04103*

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**The Greater Toledo Color Computer Club**, Bill Espen, 1319 North St., Bowling Green, 43402, (419) 471-9444

**Tri-County Computer Users Group**, Ron Potter, 10914 Oliver Road, Cleveland, 44111, (216) 476-2687

**PENNSYLVANIA**

**Cumberland Valley Users Group**, Thomas Martin, 9085 Newburg Road, Newburg, 17240, (717) 423-5525

**RHODE ISLAND**

**New England "CoCoNuts" Color Computer Club**, Arthur J. Mendonca, P.O. Box 28106 North Station, Providence, 02908, (401) 272-5096 (Sig3)

**SOUTH CAROLINA**

**Spartanburg CoCo Club**, Jesse W. Parris, 152 Bon

Air Ave., Spartanburg, 29303, (803) 573-9881

**SOUTH DAKOTA**

**Empire Area Color Computer Users Group of South Dakota**, Carl Holt, P.O. Box 395, Brandon, 57005, (605) 582-3862

**TEXAS**

**The Codis CoCo Symphony**, William C. Garretson, 2902 Harvard St., Irving, 75062, (214) 570-0823

**UTAH**

**Salt City CoCo Club**, L. Todd Knudsen, 6357 S. Lotus Way, West Jordan, 84084, (801) 968-8668

**WASHINGTON**

**Bellingham OS-9 Users Group**, Rodger Alexander, 3404 Illinois Lane, Bellingham, 98226, (206) 734-5806

**Port O' CoCo**, Donald Zimmerman, 3046 Banner Rd. SE, Port Orchard, 98366-8810, (206) 871-6535

**AUSTRALIA**

**Australian National OS-9 Users Group**, Gordon Bentzen, C-8 Odin Street, Sunnybank, Queensland, 4109, (07) 344-3881

**Brisbane Southwest Colour Computer Users Group**, Bob Devries, 21 Virgo St., Inala, Queensland, 4077, (07) 372-7816

**CANADA**

**Club d'Ordinateur Couleur du Quebec Inc.**, 8000 Metropolitain est, Anjou, Quebec, H1K 1A1, (514) 354-4941

**GERMANY**

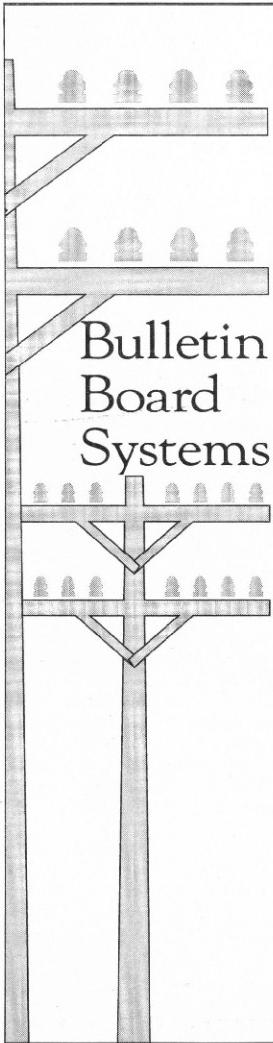
**OS-9 Users Group in Europe**, Burghard Kinzel, Leipzig Ring 22A, 5042 ERFTSTADT, +49-2235-41069, (OS-9/6809)

**THE NETHERLANDS**

**European OS-9 User Group**, Peter Tutelaars, Strijpstraat 50A, 5955 GD Leende, s8840577@hsepm.hse.nl, +31-4906-1971, (OSK)

**PUERTO RICO**

**Puerto Rico Color Computer Club**, Luis R. Martinez, P.O. Box 2072, Guayanabo, 00657-7004, (809) 799-8217 or (809) 728-2314

**BBS's**

State/City	BBS Name	Access Number	Parameters (Speed-Parity-Word Bits-Stop Bits)	SysOp
<b>Arkansas</b> Sheridan	<b>The Grant County BBS</b>	(501) 942-4047	300/1200/2400-N-8-1	Eddie Gilmore
<b>California</b> Hollywood	<b>Zog's Cavern BBS</b>	(213) 461-7948	300/1200/2400-N-8-1	Alan Sheltra
<b>Connecticut</b> Manchester	<b>Silk City BBS</b>	(203) 649-9057	300/1200/2400-N-8-1	Darren Kindberg
Waterbury	<b>Applause BBS</b>	(203) 754-9598	300/1200/2400-N-8-1	Carmen Izzi, Jr.
<b>Hawaii</b> Ft. Shafter	<b>CoCo'Nuts BBS Service</b>	(808) 845-7054	300/1200/2400-N-8-1	Tommie Taylor
<b>Idaho</b> Idaho Falls	<b>Snake River Computer Club BBS</b> <sup>1</sup>	(208) 523-3796	300/1200-N-8-1	Jon Gould
<b>Illinois</b> Carpentersville	<b>The Pinball Haven BBS</b>	(708) 428-8445	300/1200/2400-N-8-1	Jeffrey R. Chapin
Elmhurst	<b>Glenrise's Cup of CoCo BBS</b>	(708) 428-0436	300/1200/2400-N-8-1	Tony Podraza
<b>Kentucky</b> Elkhorn City	<b>Cross-N-Crown BBS</b>	(606) 754-9420	300/2400-N-8-1	Tim McIntosh
<b>Michigan</b> Manistee	<b>Crystal Palace</b>	(616) 723-0146	1200/2400-N-8-1	Nelson Howard
<b>Mississippi</b> Hattiesburg	<b>The OS-9 Zone</b> <sup>2</sup>	(601) 266-2807	300/1200/2400-N-8-1	Boisy G. Pitre
<b>New York</b> Erie County CoCo Club		(716) 649-1368	300/1200/2400-N-8-1	Wayne Mullen
Wappingers Falls	<b>The Dutchess CoCo</b>	(914) 838-1261	300/1200/2400-N-8-1	Chris Serino
<b>North Carolina</b> Wilmington	<b>Bill's Board</b>	(919) 395-4366	300/1200/2400-N-8-1	Bill Medcalf
<b>North Dakota</b> Minot AFB	<b>The 9-Line BBS</b>	(701) 727-6826	300/1200-N-8-1	David Hensley
<b>Ohio</b> Columbus	<b>Springwood BBS</b>	(614) 228-7371	300/1200/2400-N-8-1	Edward Langenback
<b>Pennsylvania</b> Conshohocken	<b>Charlie's Help Line</b>	(215) 825-3226	300/1200-N-8-1 or N-7-1	Charles DiMartino
<b>Rhode Island</b> Central Falls	<b>The Weather Connection II BBS</b>	(401) 728-8709	300/1200/2400-N-8-1	Eric Chew
<b>Virginia</b> Fall Mills	<b>Clem's Corner BBS</b> <sup>3</sup>	(703) 322-4053	300/1200-N-8-1	Richard Douglas Bailey
<b>Washington</b> Fircrest	<b>OS-9 Tacoma</b>	(206) 566-8857	300/1200/2400-N-8-1	Chris Johnson
<b>Wisconsin</b> Marinette	<b>Phoenix Interstate Data Systems</b> <sup>4</sup>	(715) 732-1036	300/1200/2400/9600-N-8-1	Joe Boburka
<b>Canada</b> Twillingeate, NF, Windsor, Ontario	<b>ColorNET BBS</b>	(709) 884-2176	300-N-8-1	Jason Woodford
	<b>Color Connection</b>	(519) 948-1879	300/1200-N-8-1	Cory Richert

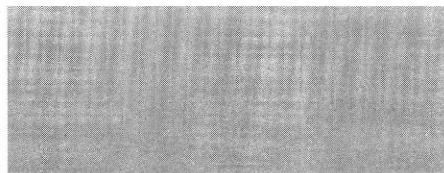
**Notes:**

<sup>1</sup>Snake River Computer Club BBS supports all types of computers.

<sup>2</sup>The OS-9 Zone is up from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. seven days a week.

<sup>3</sup>Clem's Corner BBS is up from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. seven days a week.

<sup>4</sup>Phoenix Interstate Data Systems has a .75/hr charge for premium services, paid in advance.



## MARTY GOODMAN

### End Packing

**Q** I recently was examining a favorite CoCo utility called BOOT.BAS, which displays a directory on the screen and allows me to use the arrow keys to select a program. It then runs that program when I press ENTER. At first glance the program is simple, but closer study reveals that a machine-language program is hidden inside the BASIC program. It took me a lot of sleuthing to figure out how the machine-language program was hidden, but I eventually figured it out: It is located at the end of the BASIC program. The author stored it just after the last statement in the BASIC program, manually changed the end-of-BASIC program pointer (located at &H001C and &H001D) to point beyond the end of the machine-language program, then saved the whole program to disk. The result is a BASIC program that pulls into memory a machine-language program any time it was loaded. Do you know who wrote this program? Weren't you associated with it at one time?

George Quellhoerst  
Bainsville, Ohio

**A** Yes, I was involved in distributing that program many years ago. It was written by my good friend Peter Ryan (N6LQV), author of *WEFAX, RTTY and Graphicom*. The technique used is what I call "end packing" since the machine-language program is packed between the end of the BASIC program and the end-of-program pointer. This is a convenient way to bring a machine-language routine into memory when it is associated with a BASIC program. There was never any intent to hide what was going on, but the technique is sufficiently tricky that it can appear cryptic if you are not familiar with it. Indeed, this technique was once employed by various CoCo software-protection schemes in an effort to slow those who would attempt to figure out the protection.

One curious thing about end-packed programs is that they often can't be uploaded or downloaded properly with Xmodem. A far more common approach to include a machine-language program with a BASIC program is to have the BASIC program poke the machine-language program into memory from data statements. This approach has the advantage of being amenable to transfers over a modem, and it's a lot easier to understand. However, it is slow and causes the machine-language program to take up more room than it would if it were end-packed.

### Replacement Chips

**Q** Where can I get replacement chips for the 512K upgrade, the FD-502 disk controller (or older-model controllers), the Radio Shack Multi-Pak Interface, the Orion Telepak and the Burke & Burke CoCo-XT real-time clock?

Greg Morgan (AIRWOLF2)  
Richmond, Virginia

**A** The 512K upgrade board uses sixteen 41256 (120- or 150-ns) dynamic RAM chips. These are widely available for between 50 cents and a dollar apiece from most chip suppliers. (Microprocessors Unlimited in Beggs, Oklahoma, is often a good source of memory chips.)

Later-model CoCo disk controllers, including the FD-502, typically use either a 28-pin 1773 controller chip. Earlier controllers usually use a 1793, 5-volt-only, 40-

pin controller chip. These have not been made for a long time and can be quite hard to locate. (I can't help you there.) All the other chips (except the 8-pin data separator in controllers using the 1793-chip) are generic small-scale logic chips and are available from any standard chip supplier, such as JDR in San Jose, California.

Like those in the controllers, all the chips in the 26-3024 Multi-Pak Interface are standard TTL logic chips. The newer, smaller 26-3124 model Multi-Pak Interface uses one 64-pin ASIC (Application Specific Integrated Circuit), which was custom made for Tandy and is, I suspect, no longer available. However, the rest of the chips in that unit are standard TTL logic chips. As a side note, in most cases of a dead Multi-Pak, the ASIC chip is not what is affected. Rather the buffer chips are what get fried. These buffer chips are 35-cent generic TTL chips, available from JDR and most other chip vendors.

The Orion Telepak and other RS-232 packs use the 6551A ACIA (which I believe is available from JDR) and one or two level-converter chips and logic chips. Some models of the Orion Telepak and the Tandy RS-232 Pak may have used a DC-to-DC voltage inverter to create +12 and -12-volt sources from a single +5-volt source. This module may be hard to find (at least in small quantities) since it is not a commonly used part. If the inverter does die (this is trivial to check: feed it +5 volts and see if it delivers the required +12 and -12 volts), you can power the level-converter chips directly from the +12 and -12-volt lines in the Multi-Pak Interface. Alternatively, use a MAX 232 or 233 level converter, both of which have internal DC-to-DC voltage-conversion circuitry. Of course, this would require extensive rewiring.

Consult Burke & Burke regarding a spare real-time clock chip. I believe the real-time clock uses a commonly available OKI brand real-time clock chip.

By the way, unless you have a background in electronics or a great deal of experience, random replacement of chips in a dead device is not likely to result in a fix. And if it does, it certainly isn't likely to happen in a timely or economic fashion.

### Bit Banging

**Q** Is there a way to use the 4-pin printer port on the CoCo under OS-9 with a modem and an OS-9 telecommunications program?

Alain Pilon (APILON)  
Brossard, Quebec  
Canada

**A** Because driving the 4-pin "bit-banger" serial port on the CoCo eats up so much processor time, other OS-9 tasks come to a screeching halt. There is available on Delphi a driver for the port that some say enables the computer to be used at 1200 bps with a modem (as long as you make a custom cable that feeds the receive-data line into an interrupt line on the port). Even then, operation is likely to be unreliable, and you won't be able to run much else than your terminal program while this driver is in use. So, while it is possible to use the bit-banger port for modem communications, it is not advisable. If you are using OS-9, you really need a hardware RS-232 pack for reliable OS-9 modem communication.

**Q** I have a Quantum drive that bears a model number that appears to be

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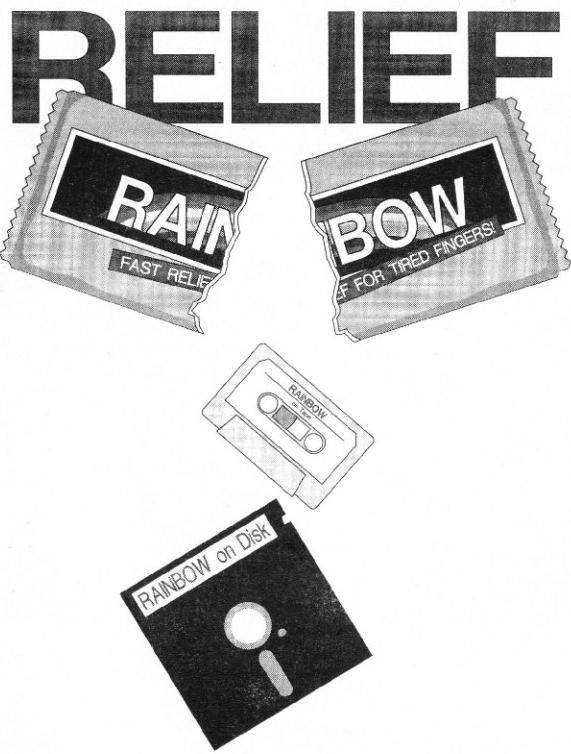
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either "QS40" or "QS4C." I have been told the drive has a storage capacity of 35 megabytes. Can it be used with a Color Computer? What would I have to get to use it with the CoCo? I bought this drive during an auction at a local university.

Joe Villarreal (VILLAREAL)  
Lubbock, Texas

**A** The drive you are talking about is almost certainly a Quantum Q-540 drive, which is listed in my references as a full-height, 5 1/4-inch, 36-megabyte MFM drive. It appears to be an extremely ancient drive that does not have automatic head acceleration and deceleration, but instead steps the head at a constant rate causing exceedingly slow hard-drive access. Even if the drive were brand new, I'd recommend that you not use it. Knowing that it was used in a university environment, where it probably received heavy use, I make this recommendation a fairly strong one.

The cost of the actual hard drive is usually a small fraction of the total cost of a hard-drive system for the CoCo. With the RGB/Ken-Ton system, you'll need to purchase a host adaptor and either a SCSI drive (support is provided for a limited number of types) or a SCSI controller card with the proper ROM to drive an MFM drive. With the Burke & Burke system, you'll need the CoCo-XT adapter and an 8-bit PC-type hard-drive controller. Whichever route you take, you'll also need cables, a case and power supply, and appropriate driver software. The Burke & Burke system requires a Multi-Pak Interface or a highly modified Y cable is required. The RGB/Ken-Ton system is ready-to-run with a Y cable. Unless you are buying a new 80-meg or larger drive, the hard drive itself is going to account for much less than half the total cost of the system.

### Televideo Terminals

**Q** I have an old Televideo terminal but no documentation for it. I'm seeking help on what functions its various DIP switches perform, especially those that set the serial-port speed.

Tony Reed (TONYREED)  
Montreal, Quebec  
Canada

**A** In the past I've used a CoCo running a terminal program and a null-modem cable to identify DIP-switch functions on unfamiliar terminals. With the two "terminals" linked, start varying the serial-port speed and other parameters on the CoCo until you are able to display characters from the terminal keyboard on the CoCo screen and vice versa. Then, after carefully recording the positions of all the DIP switches, alter the combinations one by one to see if the speed changes. Once you have determined which switches control the speed, alter CoCo's speed until you get readable characters again. With this approach, it usually takes little time to document all the settings for the terminal. With a little luck and a lot of trial and error, you can use a variant of this technique to determine control settings for the serial printer port that most such terminals include.

### Feature-Rich or Feature-Bloated?

**Q** Why are PC-compatible programs (such as terminal programs and word processors) so much bigger than their Color Computer 3 counterparts? For example, PC-compatible word processors are between one and five megabytes in size, compared to 40K CoCo programs. This is a pretty big size difference. What's going on?

Charles A. Marlow (CHARLESAM)  
Massapequa, New York

**A** There are several factors at play here. The MS-DOS market is feature-driven, and the most common form of

competing in the market is to pack more features into a program, as opposed to making the core functions of the program function especially quickly or elegantly. Thus, MS-DOS programs are in general "feature-bloated" — they have far more options and functions (some useful, some not) than an equivalent CoCo product. Note that by the standards of the PC-compatible world, word processors for the CoCo are mere "text editors." And PC-compatible word processors are, by the standards of a few years ago, full-fledged desktop-publishing packages.

Another aspect to consider is that most MS-DOS software comes with literally hundreds of printer drivers and many auxiliary programs. For example, few (if any) MS-DOS word processors don't include a spelling checker and thesaurus. All of this contributes to the bulk of the package.

Much MS-DOS software is written in higher-level languages and compiled to machine code, resulting in much larger executable files. In contrast, higher-power CoCo applications are usually written in assembly language from the start. In one sense, CoCo programmers have to be more skilled in getting the most out of a machine than PC programmers, who can count on massively powerful hardware to make up for inefficient code. For example, I use *Professional Write* (an "also ran, beginner type" package) on my MS-DOS machine. This program takes about 30 seconds to change the margins on a 20-page document on a 12-MHz 286 computer. CoCo word processors handle the same job in a second or less, due to much tighter code.

Traditionally the biggest memory hogs in MS-DOS software are those programs that use graphic user interfaces. Massive amounts of memory must be used to store icons, fonts, etc. Thus Windows and applications for that environment are truly enormous.

Finally, there is one principle that affects all but the best programmers: Programmers tend to write their code to fill up and use all available machine resources. Thus, as the capacity and speed of computers grow, the size and inefficiency of the code written for them seems to grow, too.

QAQA

### Destructive Removal

**Q** Marty, you've often suggested "destructive removal" as a means of cleanly getting the 68B09E out of a dead CoCo 3. I want to add a little detail to your instructions: It is important to be careful to cut all the pins of the chip you are destructively removing very close to the body of the chip. This leaves more of the pin sticking up from the board, making it easier to grab with needle-nosed pliers when removing the pins one-by-one during the desoldering phase of the operation.

Lonnie McClure (LMCLURE)  
Little Rock, Arkansas

Thanks for the tip, Lonnie.

Martin H. Goodman, M.D., a physician trained in anesthesiology, is a longtime electronics tinkerer and outspoken commentator — sort of the Howard Cosell of the CoCo world. On Delphi, Marty is the SIGOp of THE RAINBOW's CoCo SIG. His non-computer passions include running, mountain climbing and outdoor photography. Marty lives in San Pablo, California.



GREG LAW

**MV-Shell**

I have a question concerning a program which was written by Dale Puckett and appeared in the June and July 1988 issues of THE RAINBOW. The program in question is MV-Shell, which runs under Multi-Vue. I have the program and I have put together an AIF file. When I click on the icon, the program loads and, for a second, I get a menu. But then the whole thing erases itself and returns to the Tandy menu. Both the program and icon have the attributes set for owner execute and public execute. Do you have any ideas why this happens? One of the things I have tried is to load gtx2, syscall and inkey in memory ahead of time, but with no results. A copy of my AIF file is included.

Finally, there are companion programs in the November 1988 issue called DoMenu and DoAlert. Do these programs need their own AIF files to run? If not, how do I incorporate these programs into the MV-Shell module?

*Ernest Bazzinotti, Jr.  
Dorchester, Massachusetts*

I'm not sure why MV-Shell is aborting. It could be related to memory, or perhaps an error is being returned from the windowing system for some reason. You may want to load and run the original source from BASIC09 to determine if the program is running correctly. If it is, you may need to merge it with inkey, gtx2, and syscall. To do this, go into the CMDS directory and issue these commands:

```
rename mvshell.bak
merge mvshell.bak gtx2 syscall i
nkey >mvshell
attr mvshell e pe
```

This should considerably reduce the amount of overhead involved with loading each module individually.

All applications that run under Multi-Vue require an AIF file. In the case of DoMenu and DoAlert, you can use the same settings as you used for MV-Shell. That is, copy aif.mvshell to aif.domenu and aif.doaalert, and change the application names from mvshell to domenu and doalert.

**Where's OS-9?**

When I ordered The Complete Rainbow Guide to OS-9 and The Complete Rainbow Guide to OS-9 Level II, Volume 1: A Beginner's Guide to Windows, you sort of left me hanging. No where in the advertisement was there any mention of an OS-9 system master and I have never seen it advertised in THE RAINBOW. In fact, I have never seen it in any Radio Shack store or even heard of it until I got to Page 54 of The Complete Rainbow Guide to OS-9 Level II. I would also like to know if the OS-9 system master and OS-9 Level II Operating System are one and the same?

*Robert Cabral  
USNS Kilauea*

The OS-9 Level II operating system is currently available through Radio Shack Express Order (800-321-3133), although it used to be carried in the stores. The OS-9

Level II system master refers to the master disks included in the package. I'm not certain, but I believe the current price is \$69.95. You also need at least a CoCo 3 and one disk drive, although 512K and two disk drives are highly recommended. As a matter of fact, I don't recommend using OS-9 without the 512K upgrade installed due to the extreme memory limitations in a 128K system.

**Auto Won't Format**

Enclosed is a copy of my OS-9 boot disk with the Auto Format program on Page 72 of the March 1991 issue. I tried using /d1 when the program asked which drive, but I still received Error 221. Here are the steps I've taken so far:

```
copy /d1/cmds/auto /d0/cmds/auto
attr /d0/cmds/auto
```

From my boot disk, I type:

```
load auto
auto
```

The program asks to press a key, the disk name, number of disks, starting disk number and drive number. This is what is on my screen:

```
Formatting disk number 1 as #1
40 tracks
2 sides
You have error 221 in Auto Formatter
Continue (Y/N)?
```

I could use some help getting this program to work. Please see if you can find what I've done wrong.

*L.T. Day  
Zanesville, Ohio*

I used the version of auto included on your disk, and it worked fine. I also compared the version of auto on your disk with my master and confirmed the packed files are the same. But it just occurred to me at the last minute that you probably do not have the /nil driver (nildrv.dr and nil.dd) since those files are included with OS-9 Development System. It can be a pain trying to remember which files are included with OS-9 Level II and which are included with Multi-Vue and OS-9 Development System. This makes sense, too, because >/nil is the only statement in the listing that would cause an Error 221 (module not found). All of the other statements would cause Error 216 (file not found) if you were missing an executable program such as tmode or display. All these little nuances can drive you batty sometimes. In short, you can fix the problem by either installing nildrv.dr and nil.dd in your OS9Boot file or by removing >/nil from the line that runs format.

**Missing Menus**

I was recently going through my RAINBOW ON DISK library and found the source for locate. Wanting to use this enhancement to find, I entered the listings for gtx3 and doalert. I then loaded all three modules and packed them. The problem I'm finding is that doalert will not create the window with menus. I've tried all types of screens, compared the source code for locate, doalert and gtx3. They all match the source as published in THE RAINBOW. The program just sits there after creating the arrow graphics cursor. I'm wondering if I missed a patch published at a later date?

*John Gilbertson  
Portsmouth, Virginia*

Although it wasn't specifically mentioned in the article, you need the windint

module from the Multi-Vue disk in your OS9Boot file in order for locate to work properly. This module replaces gr fint in the standard OS9Boot file and adds support for menu bars, the auto-follow mouse, etc. If you do not have Multi-Vue, you can order it from Radio Shack Express Order at (800) 321-3133.

**UCSD Pascal**

I am the owner of a CoCo 2 computer and have recently begun to study Pascal as implemented on the Apple computers we have at school. This has become a hassle. I recall seeing in your magazine some years ago an advertisement for a Pascal compiler for the CoCo 2. Do you have any information on software houses that would carry an implementation of UCSD Pascal that I could use on a 64K CoCo 2?

*Donald Thomas Dresden, Ohio*

You are thinking of DEFT Pascal from DEFT Systems. Unfortunately this company is no longer in business and its products are no longer available. The only other Pascal compiler that might be available is OS-9 Pascal, which follows the ISO standard instead of the UCSD standard. You'll probably have to order OS-9 Pascal through Radio Shack Express Order.



In addition to being OS9 Online SIGOP, Greg Law enjoys programming on all types of computers and has worked on systems ranging from the CoCo to the Burroughs B6700 super mainframe. He lives in Louisville, Kentucky.

**Submitting Material To Rainbow**

Contributions to THE RAINBOW are welcome from everyone. We like to run a variety of programs that are useful, helpful and fun for other CoCo owners.

**WHAT TO WRITE:** We are interested in what you want to tell our readers. We accept for consideration anything that is well-written and has a practical application for the Tandy Color Computer. If it interests you, it will probably interest lots of others. However, we vastly prefer articles with accompanying programs that can be entered and run. The more unique the idea, the more the appeal. We have a continuing need for short articles with short listings. These are especially appealing to our many beginners.

**FORMAT:** Program submissions must be on tape or disk, and it is best to make several saves, at least one of them in ASCII format. We're sorry, but we do not have time to key in programs and debug our typing errors. All programs should be supported by some editorial commentary explaining how the program works. We also prefer that editorial copy be included in ASCII format on the tape or disk, using any of the word processors currently available for the Color Computer. Also, please include a double-spaced printout of your editorial material and program listing. Do not send text in all capital letters; use upper- and lowercase.

**COMPENSATION:** We do pay for submissions, based on a number of criteria. Those wishing remuneration should *so state* when making submissions.

For the benefit of those wanting more detailed information on making submissions, please send a self-addressed, stamped envelope (SASE) to: Submission Guidelines, THE RAINBOW, The Falsoft Building, P.O. Box 385, Prospect, KY 40059. We will send you comprehensive guidelines.

Please do not submit material currently submitted to another publication.

**The C Compiler for the CoCo has finally arrived...****CoCo-C**

CoCo-C is a complete RSDOS based C development package for the Color Computer not requiring the OS-9 Operating System. CoCo-C consists of five main programs: a Text Editor, a C Compiler, an Assembler, and a Library Linker which are all controlled by the CoCo-C Command Coordinator.

**Text Editor**

A full featured screen oriented line editor for the CoCo3 developed by Bob van der Poel. Powerful editing and cursor commands with auto-indent and user defined macros make this a great editor for writing C or assembly language programs. A less sophisticated version for the CoCo 2 is also available.

**C Compiler**

The CoCo-C Compiler is a full featured K&R style integer compiler specifically designed for RSDOS based systems. It has assembly language output, position independent code and can output ROM-able code if desired. Added features allow you to mix C, assembly language and BASIC commands within your program!

**Assembler**

This symbolic assembler is capable of assembling files as large as available disk space. It supports a Motorola style syntax and outputs standard binary files ready for LOADM and EXEC. Options include list file output and generation of symbol table file.

**Library/Linker**

The Library Linker is a utility which links the CoCo-C's 90+ function library with your compiled binary file, creating a stand alone executable ML file.

**Command Coordinator**

The Command Coordinator is CoCo-C's main program. Its user friendly menu driven screen smoothly switches back and forth between the Editor, Compiler, Assembler and Linker.

The CoCo-C Compiler package includes BOTH CoCo 2 and CoCo 3 versions of ALL the programs listed above plus MORE! Compatible w/B&B RGBDOS

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## PRINTER SOFTWARE

### Call for Printer Software

The CoCo is a great little computer even without all the add-ons.

But let's face it, the add-ons (disk drives, modems, etc.) make computing life even easier. The printer has long been one of the first peripheral devices we'll recommend to users wanting to upgrade their systems. And with good reason: Viewing screen output is OK, so long as someone else doesn't need a copy. If you've written a program for using a printer with the CoCo, perhaps someone else could use it, too.

We are now making tentative plans for the May 1993 issue of THE RAINBOW and are accepting program submissions appropriate for that issue's theme, Printers. We are

also interested in general-interest articles discussing how printers can be used with the CoCo. All submissions must be received by us no later than January 29, 1992, and must follow our standard submission guidelines (see Page 15 for details and address).

We'd also like to see any other programs or articles you have written (submitted material must be the original work of the submitting party, or submitted with written permission). All submissions are evaluated and considered for publication in future issues.



### BACK ISSUES STILL AVAILABLE

Have you explored the wealth of information in our past issues? From our very first, four-page issue to many with more than 300 pages of material, it's all just for CoCo users — a great way to expand your library!

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To order, review and fill out the form below and mail it with your payment.

For greater convenience, order through the Rainbow Magazine Services area of our Delphi CoCo SIG.

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```

puts(argv[0]);
argc--;
/* check for change of code file name */
if (*argv[1] == '-') {
    strcpy(codefn, "/dd/sys/");
    strcat(codefn, argv[1]+1);
    strcat(codefn, ".code");
    firstparam = 2;
    argc--;
}
/* check for code file content listing request */
if (*argv[firstparam] == '?') {
    puts(argv[0]);
    puts(argv[1]);
    dumpcodes();
    exit(0);
}
/* create a list of commands from the parameter list */
for (i = 0; i < argc; i++) {
    _strass(&lc[i], &init_lc, sizeof(CODETYPE));
    strncpy(lc[i].command, argv[i + firstparam], 11);
    lc[i].command[11] = '\0';
    if ((chptr = index(lc[i].command, '(')) != NULL)
        *chptr = '\0';
    strtolower(lc[i].command);
}
/* open code file for command interpreting */
if ((fp = fopen(codefn, "r")) == NULL)
    exit(errno);
/* read device name and special case stdout and stderr */
fscanf(fp, "%s\n", devicename);
strtolower(devicename);
if (strcmp(devicename, "stdout") == 0) {
    codefp = stdout;
    stdio = TRUE;
}
else if (strcmp(devicename, "stderr") == 0) {
    codefp = stderr;
    stdio = TRUE;
}
/* read each command with its control codes */
while (fgets(in_str, 80, fp) != NULL) {
    tc.numcodes = sscanf(in_str, codefrm, tc.command, &tc.numextra,
        &tc.codel, &tc.code2, &tc.code3, &tc.code4, &tc.code5) - 2;
    strtolower(tc.command);
    for (i = 0; i < argc; i++)
        if (strcmp(tc.command, lc[i].command) == 0)
            _strass(&lc[i], &tc, sizeof(CODETYPE));
    /* while */
    if (errno(fp))
        exit(fp);
}
/* look for any parameters that had */
/* no commands in the code file */
cmd_err = FALSE;
for (i = 0; i < argc; i++)
    if (lc[i].numcodes == 0) {
        printf("Unknown command --> %s\n", lc[i].command);
        cmd_err = TRUE;
    }
if (cmd_err) {
    puts(nonesent);
    exit(0);
}
/* check for user provided codes */
cmd_err = FALSE;
for (i = 0; i < argc; i++) {
    chptr = index(argv[i + firstparam], '(');
    /* display error for unwanted user provided codes */
    if ((lc[i].numextra == 0) && (chptr != NULL)) {
        printf("Extra code(s) not required --> %s\n",
            argv[i + firstparam]);
        cmd_err = TRUE;
    }
    else if (lc[i].numextra > 0) {
        /* display error if missing user required codes */
        if (chptr == NULL) {
            printf("Missing user provided codes --> %s\n",
                argv[i + firstparam]);
            cmd_err = TRUE;
        }
    }
    /* else display error if wrong # of user required codes */
    else {
        if (sscanf(chptr, "(%d-%d-%d",
            &lc[i].xcode1, &lc[i].xcode2, &lc[i].xcode3)
            != lc[i].numextra) {
            printf("Wrong number of user provided codes --> %s\n",
                argv[i + firstparam]));
            cmd_err = TRUE;
        }
    }
}
/* send control codes to the device */
if (!stdio)
    if ((codefp = fopen(devicename, "w")) == NULL)
        exit(errno);
/* for each command ... */
for (i = 0; i < argc; i++) {
    /* send normal control code(s) */
    codeptr = &lc[i].codel;
    while (lc[i].numcodes--)
        putc(*codeptr++, codefp);

    /* send user required control code(s) */
    codeptr = &lc[i].xcode1;
    while (lc[i].numextra--)
        putc(*codeptr++, codefp);
    /* for */
}
if (errno(codefp))
    exit(errno);
if (!stdio)
    fclose(fp);
} /* main - sendcode */

/* convert entire string to lower case */
void strtolower(str)
char *str;
{
    while (*str++ = tolower(*str));
}

/* dump control codes to standard output for reference */
void dumpcodes()
{
    int num_codes;
    register int i;
    int *codeptr;
    FILE *fp;
    CODETYPE tc;
    char device[21];
    char in_str[81];
    char tempfn[81];
    char *chptr;

    if ((fp = fopen(codefn, "r")) == NULL)
        exit(errno);

    /* print usage and heading information */
    fscanf(fp, "%20s\n", device);
    strcpy(tempfn, codefn);
    chptr = rindex(tempfn, '.');
    *chptr = '\0';
    chptr = 1 + rindex(tempfn, '/');
    printf("Control Codes for peripheral \"%s\"\n", chptr);
    printf("using device \"%s\"\n", device);
    puts(" Codes:          # Extra:");
    puts(" Command   1 2 3 4 5 Codes");
    puts("-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----");
    /* read and display each command with its control codes */
    while (fgets(in_str, 80, fp) != NULL) {
        num_codes = sscanf(in_str, codefrm, tc.command, &tc.numextra,
            &tc.codel, &tc.code2, &tc.code3, &tc.code4, &tc.code5) - 2;
        printf("%-10s", tc.command);
        codeptr = &tc.codel;
        for (i = 5; i > 0; i--, num_codes) {
            if (num_codes > 0)
                printf(" %3d", *codeptr++);
            else
                printf("      ");
        }
        printf(" %4d\n", tc.numextra);
    }
    if (errno(fp))
        exit(errno);
    fclose(fp);
}

```



Sundog Systems recently announced it has completed a project started over two years ago. Led by Jeff Steidl, author of *Photon* and *GrafExpress 2.0*, three programmers combined their efforts to produce *Contras*. This 512K CoCo 3 program features full-screen (320-by-225) hardware scrolling, smooth animation, background music, sound effects and arcade action. It also supports both one- and two-player modes.

According to Glen Dahlgren of Sundog Systems, "Jeff proved that the CoCo can match — or surpass — any home game system. This is paramilitary combat at its best." While we haven't received our copy yet, you can bet this is one new CoCo product we'll have a blast with. Look for the upcoming review in THE RAINBOW.

## Feature Program

## Clean the Screen

by Steven Puls



**A**re you bored with the way Color BASIC's CLS command works? Do you wish you had a more interesting way to clear the CoCo's 32-column screen? If so, *NewCLS* could be the answer for you.

*NewCLS* is a short utility that adds a little spice to the way the CoCo clears its standard screen. Best of all, *NewCLS* works on any CoCo with at least 16K of memory.

To use this utility, enter the program shown in the listing and save it to tape or disk. This BASIC program stores in memory a machine-language routine that handles the actual work of clearing the screen. It then saves this routine to disk. (Readers with tape-based CoCo systems should change SAVEM in Line 10 to CSAVEM. Also make sure you press the Record and Play buttons on the tape recorder before you run the BASIC program.)

To execute the machine-language routine created by *NewCLS*, you must first load it into memory. To do this, enter CLEAR 100, &H3000 followed by LOADM "NEWCLS". (Tape users should enter CLOADM "NEWCLS".)

Once the routine is in memory, simply enter EXEC to clear the screen. Alternatively, *NewCLS* can be used by your other BASIC programs; just load and execute it by issuing the above commands under program control.

You can change the screen colors and patterns by entering POKE &H300A,x, where x is any value between 0 and 255, before executing the program. Experiment and see what values work best for you. I hope you find *NewCLS* to be a useful little program.

*Steven Puls is currently a junior in high school. Since he received his first CoCo six years ago, he has enjoyed writing programs for it. Steven hopes to make a career of computer programming.*

**16K**

**The Listing: NEWCLS**

```

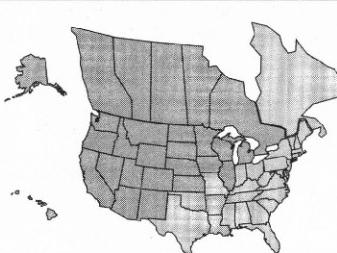
1 'NEW CLS
2 'BY STEVEN PULS
3 'COPYRIGHT (C) 1992
4 'BY FALSOFT, INC.
5 'RAINBOW MAGAZINE
9 CLEAR 100, &H3000:GOTO30
10 SAVEM "NEWCLS", &H3000, &H3029, &
H3000
20 END
30 FORADD=&H3000 TO&H3029:READIN
F$:POKEADD,VAL("&H"+INF$):NEXT:G
OTO 10
40 DATA 8E,4,0,10,8E,0,0,A6,84,8
1,20,27,6,80,1,A7,84,31,21,30,1,
8C,6,0,25,ED,10,8C,0,0,27,9,10,8
E,0,0,8E,4,0,20,DE,39

```

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# The Contras

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Once upon a time, Sundog Systems announced a new 512k game called *The Contras*. It took two years and three programmers to complete this, the most ambitious game ever created for the CoCo-3. Jeff Steidl, accomplished author of *Photon* and *GrafxExpress 2.0*, led the effort to produce this technological marvel. In doing so, he proved that the CoCo can match— or surpass— any home game system.

*The Contras* features a two-player cooperative mode, 512k filled with incredible graphics, super-smooth animation and scrolling, an outstanding background music score, sizzling sound effects, and lightning-fast arcade action.

This is paramilitary combat at its best. Play alone or with a friend as you take on the evil alien invaders. Blow away the enemy while travelling thru multiple levels and powering up with ever more destructive weapons. *The Contras* will keep you playing for hours; it is quite possibly the best CoCo game ever! Requires 512k CoCo-3, disk drive, & joystick.

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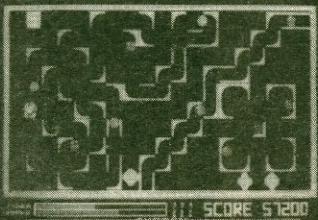
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## GRAF EXPRESS 2.0 NEW!

GrafExpress 2.0 is a complete graphics and music programming environment. From the beginner to the accomplished professional, you can use GrafExpress to create lightning fast arcade games, graphic applications and utilities, and windowing multimedia demonstrations! The GrafExpress package includes two incredible systems. GrafExpress 16 works on all monitor types and offers support in 12 graphic resolutions (from 128x192 to 320x225). GrafExpress 256 offers 6 resolutions (from 128x192 to 160x225 on a composite monitor) in an astounding 256 colors! Ever seen a CoCo do that before? Both systems include standard graphics commands (CIRCLE, FILL, etc.) that blow away the competition. For example, the BOX command peaks out at over 2 MegaPixels/second; that's 300 times faster than BASIC! 256 separate sprites of up to 100x100 pixels each are supported with window clipping and high-res pixel level collision checking. The 8-octave/4-voice music synthesizer has independent envelope, waveform, and volume controls, a 7+ KHz sampling rate, and much more. Other features include text/graphics mixing, different font sizes, fast window copying and scrolling, picture save/load, easy implementation from both BASIC and assembly language, multiple screen animation, and support for 128K/512K, double speed, and the high-res joystick interface. The package also contains support programs that are worth the purchase price of GrafExpress alone! These include an introductory demo, a picture editor, a waveform editor, and an art program that supports 256 colors! GrafExpress also comes with a 50 page manual that fully explains all of its incredible features. If you do any graphics programming or simply want to see what your little CoCo is capable of, GrafExpress is a must! Req. 128K CoCo 3 and disk drive.

**\$34.95**

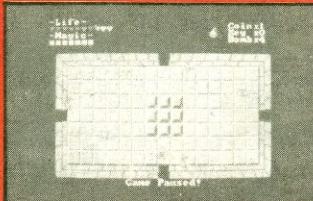
## War Monger NEW!



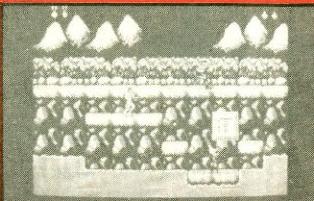
The world is in unrest. Power-hungry villains and evil warlords are readying their forces; it falls to you to lead your people against these armies, and only your best strategic plans can save the day. Fight the good fight in any era or locale. Play a simple game of capture the flag armed with water balloons, or climb into the cockpit of a 100 foot high armored warrior. Explore the deepest dungeons, your galaxy, or create your own scenarios with this incredible war game construction set/simulator. Your imagination is your only limit. You will deploy your forces with total control over hostile terrain while you scroll a graphic bird's-eye view over an immense world. War Monger has terrific 320x200 resolution, 16 color graphics and includes a file editor to create or edit your own. Play against the computer, battle with another player, or simply watch the computer pilot against itself. The enemy is everywhere. Are you ready to take on the challenge as the War Monger? Req. 128K CoCo 3 and disk drive.

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## The Quest for THELDA ★ THE CONTRAS



An immensely popular 128K CoCo 3 arcade/adventure. Over 500 screens of fast fantasy action and puzzle solving. Great graphics and sound effects. \$34.95. Hint book only \$4.95.



A 512K two player futuristic combat arcade game. Full screen 320x225 hardware scrolling and smooth animation. Back-ground music score and sound effects! 512K Coco3 only. \$34.95. Shipping soon!

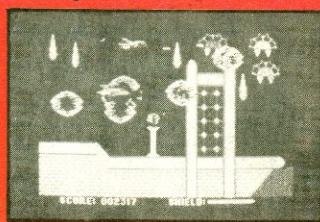
## ALSO AVAILABLE

Warrior King CoCo 3	\$29.95
In Quest of the Star Lord CoCo 3	\$34.95
Hint Sheet	\$ 3.95
Hall of the King 1, 2 or 3 CoCo 1 - 3	\$29.95 ea.
Hall of the King Trilogy	\$74.95
White Fire of Eternity CoCo 1 - 3	\$19.95
Dragon Blade CoCo 1 - 3	\$19.95
Champion CoCo 1 - 3	\$19.95
Paladin's Legacy CoCo 1 - 3	\$24.95



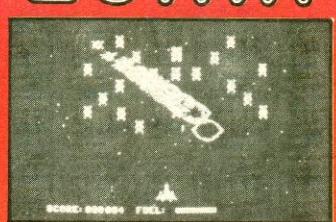
Everyone loves this 512K arcade game. 3 disks packed with spectacular graphics and eerie background digital sound effects. 512K CoCo 3 only. \$34.95.

## Crystal City



This was THE game of '91! Ultra-fast space action with hardware scrolling on a 128K CoCo 3. Wild sound effects and over 30 MegaBytes of amazing graphics! \$34.95.

## ZENIX



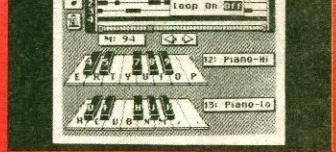
Lightning fast arcade game for the 128K CoCo 3. Terrific 320x225 graphics, back-ground music score and sound effects, and out-of-sight game play. \$29.95.

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The best selling 128K CoCo 3 martial arts arcade game. Now available in both RS-DOS and OS-9 versions. Play the incredible combat experience you've been missing under the operating system of your choice! \$29.95.

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A polyphonic digital sound sequencing system for your 128K/512K CoCo 3 with a user-friendly point-and-click graphic editor. Create music scores with your own sounds or from the many we provide. \$34.95.

Sample instrument disks: 6 sides of sampled sounds/instruments. Only \$12.95 each or \$29.95 for all three.

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